



FLORVERDE STANDARDS

FOR THE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION
OF FLOWERS AND ORNAMENTALS

VERSION 7.1.3 • SEPTEMBER 2023
OBLIGATORY FROM: 1ST OF MARCH 2024



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asocolflores

Association of Colombian Flower Exporters

FLORVERDE



SUSTAINABLE FLOWERS

Design and layout

Equilibrio Gráfico Editorial Ltda.



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CONTENT

	Introduction	4
1	Management system	5
2	Labor rights	8
3	Workers education, training and welfare	15
4	Health and safety management in the workplace	17
5	Water management and conservation	25
6	Soil conservation, substrate and fertilization management	28
7	Phytosanitary control and secure handling of pesticides	32
8	Waste management	40
9	Property, land and biodiversity management	44
10	Energy efficiency and carbon footprint	47
11	Origen of plant material	49
12	Postharvest product care	51
13	Tracking and records	54
14	State and use of the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers mark of conformity	55

INTRODUCTION

The Florverde Sustainable Flowers Certification Scheme provides the standards and framework for the certification of flowers and ornamentals by independent and third parties based on the ISO / IEC 17065 standard. This scheme ensures that only those products whose processes meet the quality, and environmental and social requirements as established in the Florverde normative documents are certified.

The normative documents that make up part of the Florverde Sustainable Flowers Certification Scheme include: the *Standard for the Sustainable Production of Flowers and Ornamentals*, and the *General Regulation for the Florverde Sustainable Flowers Certification*.

The *Florverde Standard for the Sustainable Production of Flowers and Ornamentals* helps producers strengthen their internal processes with the implementation of sustainable practices, and assures consumers that they are purchasing a product produced with quality, as well as social and environmental responsibility. This normative document contains the requirements and compliance criteria from which the processes related to the production of flowers and ornamentals are evaluated and certified.

The Standard is composed of fourteen chapters, each with a justification of the topic at hand, along with the requirements and criteria of compliance, and the level of compulsion with which they must be fulfilled by the aspiring producers, as described in the *General Regulation for the Florverde Sustainable Flowers Certification*.

Technical and Administrative Secretariat
Florverde® Sustainable Flowers

1 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



The management system is a tool for the continuous improvement of socio-environmental performance, allowing senior management to be involved in the planning, implementation and monitoring of socio-environmental improvement. This chapter aims to guide the use of these tools and strengthen the commitment of top management, in a way that the management system facilitates continuous improvement and compliance with the Florverde Standard.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
RESPONSIBILITY AND MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT			
1.1	Is there a participation space of the management team, officially conformed, for the follow up to the implementation of social and environmental issues?	There is space composed of the top management team, through which it is evident: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Conformation, periodicity of the meetings, and monitoring of socio-environmental performance b) Commitments, deadlines and people responsible for the implementation and maintenance of socio-environmental performance. c) Allocation of resources for the implementation of social and environmental issues. d) Monitoring of socio-environmental performance. 	1
1.2	Is there a current socio-environmental policy, which is written, disclosed and understood?	A socio-environmental policy is established by senior management, which establishes within its scope the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) It is appropriate in terms of nature, socio-environmental impacts of its activities, products and services. b) It is documented and signed by the senior management, including a publication date. c) Includes a commitment to comply with national legislation and ratified labor, social and environmental standards, in accordance with the requirements described in this standard. d) Includes a commitment to continuous socio-environmental improvement. e) Provides the framework for establishing and reviewing socio-environmental objectives and targets. f) It is communicated to all the people working for or on behalf of the production unit. g) It is made available to the public. 	1
1.3	Do they have social and environmental objectives and goals?	Social and environmental objectives and goals are consistent with the policy. The defined objectives and targets are documented, disclosed and count on an approval date. They are measurable and demonstrate continuous socio-environmental improvement.	1
1.4	Is there a written socio-environmental action plan in order to meet the objectives and goals?	A socio-environmental action plan has been documented and implemented in order to achieve the objectives and targets. The plan contains activities, resources, responsible people, and execution and follow-up dates. Demonstrates the execution and fulfillment of the socio-environmental action plan.	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
1.5	Are managerial reviews on environmental and social aspects, carried out?	Senior management conducts annual planned reviews, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Results of internal or external inspections / audits and corrective actions taken, as applicable. The degree of fulfillment of the objectives, goals and programs. The results of the analysis of the indicators referenced in the different social and environmental requirements of the standard. The compliance grading of the occupational health and safety management system. The advances of the programs of efficient use and saving of water, landscape and biodiversity, and energy efficiency. The results of the actions taken in order to resolve the complaints and claims of the interested parties. Evidence is shown of the managerial reviews that are carried out. [Cross reference: with requirements 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 4.29, 4.33, 5.6, 5.7, 7.15, 9.10, 10.1, 10.2, 10.7]	1
INSPECTION AND INTERNAL AUDIT			
1.6	Has an internal inspection / audit been carried out in order to ensure compliance with the Florverde regulations?	Documentary evidence is available to demonstrate that annually it is performed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For the individual certification option, an internal inspection of all production units in order to verify compliance with the Florverde Standard. For internal inspections, the Florverde Standard Checklist must be used and inspectors must comply with the requirements of Attachment 3 of the General Regulations for Florverde Sustainable Flowers certification. The internal inspection must be carried out before the announced inspection of the Certification Body. For the group certification option and the individual certification option with several production units with an internal control system (ICS), they must comply with the requirements for internal audit and inspection of Attachment 2, "Requirements of the ICS", of the <i>General Regulations for Florverde Sustainable Flowers certification</i>. The audit and internal inspection must be carried out before the audit and the announced inspection of the Certification Body. 	1
ATTENTION TO NON-CONFORMITY, COMPLAINTS AND CLAIMS			
1.7	Have steps been taken to correct the findings found during the internal or external audit / inspection?	A documented procedure is in place to correct findings found through internal or external inspections / audits, as appropriate. It demonstrates that effective actions have been taken in order to correct the findings. [Cross reference: with requirement 1.5, review by the Management]	1
1.8	Is there a mechanism to deal with complaints from workers and external parties?	There is a documented mechanism to address and manage complaints from workers and external parties related to compliance with the Florverde regulations. It demonstrates that effective actions have been carried out to resolve and respond to the complaints received. The grievance procedure is accessible and understandable to all workers and external parties. In case of complaints related to the Florverde regulation that may jeopardize the reputation and credibility of the Florverde Sustainable Flowers brand, the certificate holder must inform the CB immediately. The confidentiality of any complaint filed is ensured and that information is disclosed when necessary to investigate and handle the complaint. No worker or third party who has made a report in good faith should be subject to retaliation. [Cross reference: with requirement 1.5, review by the Management]	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
COMBATING BRIBERY			
1.9	Do not offer or accept bribes?	Improper monetary or other benefits must not be offered, promised, or given to government officials, employees of business partners, family members, or business associates to obtain or retain business or other improper advantage. Likewise, undue monetary or other benefits from public officials or employees of business partners must not be requested, agreed upon or accepted.	1
1.10	Are there internal controls in place to prevent and detect bribery?	Adequate internal controls are in place to prevent and detect bribery, including a system of financial and accounting procedures. Controls and ethics measures should be developed on the basis of a risk assessment. These controls must be reviewed at least once a year.	1
1.11	Are controls and measures to prevent and detect bribery disclosed?	All people who work for the production unit and on its behalf are informed of the policies, controls and ethical measures established to prevent and detect bribery or any improper behavior of offering or receiving gifts. Anti-bribery initiatives are disclosed to stakeholders. e.g. public engagements, disclosure of internal controls and communication with the public.	1
1.12	Are legitimate contributions made to candidates of public office or political parties?	No illegal contributions are made to candidates of public office or to political parties. When it is done, it must comply with the public disclosure requirements or in accordance with applicable current legislation, and must be reported to senior management.	1
1.13	Information is not falsified?	The producer does not falsify any information regarding their activities, structure and performance and is not involved in any act of misrepresentation in the supply chain.	1

2 LABOR RIGHTS



From a universal perspective, labor rights must guarantee all the required elements to ensure that work is a dignified trade which guarantees the worker a subsistence for himself or herself and their family, but also all the elements that comprised in the concept of social security. This chapter is based also on international conventions and guidelines defined by the ILO. It aims to be an essential tool to facilitate the knowledge and understanding of all the regulatory elements known as "labor rights" and thereby generate awareness about their application in the workplace so as to maintain conditions of equality, safety, dignity and freedom. Some of the conventions include the following:

- C001 Hours of Work Convention (Industry) (1919)
- C014 Weekly Rest Convention (Industry) (1921)
- C029 Forced Labour Convention (1930)
- C030 Hours of Work Convention (Commerce and Offices) (1930)
- C087 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention (1948)
- C095 Protection of Wages Convention (1949)
- C098 Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention (1949)
- C100 Equal Remuneration Convention (1951)
- C102 Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention (1952)
- C105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (1957)
- C106 Weekly Rest Convention (Commerce and Offices) (1957)
- C111 Discrimination (Employment and Occupation Convention) (1958)
- C122 Employment Policy Convention (1964)
- C131 Minimum Wage Fixing Convention (1970)
- C135 Agreement regarding the workers representatives (1971)
- C138 Minimum Age Convention (1973)
- C154 Collective Bargaining Convention (1981)
- C158 Termination of Employment Convention (1982)
- C171 Night Work Convention (1990)
- C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (1999)
- R085 Recommendation on the protection of wages (1949)
- R116 Recommendation on the reduction of work hours (1962)
- R135 Recommendation on the setting of minimum wages (1970)
- R190 Recommendation on the worst forms of child labor (1999)

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
VOLUNTARY WORK			
2.1	Is forced labor prohibited?	<p>The use of forced or compulsory labor in any of its forms and hiring modalities is prohibited, including mandatory penitentiary work. If voluntary prison labour is used, a written log must be completed by the producer including those workers details. The log will be available for auditing purposes.</p> <p>The producer must also ensure that those workers will have the same terms and conditions as other workers provided by the standard.</p> <p>It is guaranteed that all work carried out in the production unit is done so voluntarily, and not under the threat of any type of penalty or sanction.</p> <p>Workers decide if they want to be employed and if they want to resign in a personal and voluntary way.</p> <p>Workers are free to move around the production unit, as well as to leave it at the end of the workday, or earlier if so required.</p>	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
2.1	Is forced labor prohibited?	<p>Cash payments or deposit are prohibited during the hiring process. In case there is a need to provide cash advances and loans to workers, during their working period, a written policy with clear terms and conditions currently exist and it is visible and communicated to employees. These terms (and related interest rates) shall not be used to bind workers to employment.</p> <p>No type of debt bondage work will be used, nor are workers be allowed or promoted to incur debts through recruitment fees, fines or other means.</p> <p>Workers will not be pressured to force their spouses, children or any other family member to be hired. When family members are able to work, they must be hired separately and voluntarily in accordance with the requirements of the regulations.</p> <p>Neither identity documents, salary, nor benefits, or any right stipulated by the current regulations can be withheld from the workers in order to force them to work, nor as a disciplinary action. A secure storage option is provided for workers' personal documents and valuable possessions and it is the worker's choice to use the storage. Workers have free access to their assets.</p> <p>Workers won't be required to use employer-operated stores or services. Where access to other stores or services is not possible, the employer will ensure that goods or services are sold or provided at fair and reasonable prices, without the intent to put workers in debt or otherwise coerce.</p> <p>If cases of forced or compulsory labor are found, an effective remedy must be implemented, such as compensation for personal and material damages. Reparation must be verified and registered.</p>	
WORK HOURS			
2.2	Does the workday meet current labor legislation?	<p>Workers are not required to work more than 48 hours per week on a regular basis. Whenever the 48 hour limit is reached, the production unit must allot at least two hours each week per worker for cultural, training, recreational or sports activities according to records, timelines and action plans.</p> <p>The production unit respects workers' right to have breaks during their work shifts, as well their right to rest during annual vacation periods and public holidays.</p> <p>Daily work hours are recorded in a system designed and used for this purpose.</p>	1
2.3	Does the production unit observe the overtime limit of twelve (12) weekly hours per worker and is it legally authorized to have overtime work?	<p>Overtime is worked on a voluntary basis. Workers do not work more than twelve (12) hours overtime in an ordinary working week, in accordance with the current and applicable legislation. Approval is given to work the maximum number of overtime hours, issued by the competent authority, and in accordance with current and applicable legislation.</p> <p>Overtime work records have been signed by workers as proof of acceptance.</p>	2
2.4	Are workers given breaks according to the current national labor legislation?	<p>The right of workers to intermediate breaks during the daily workday for food consumption and personal activities is respected.</p> <p>If the current national legislation requires it, spaces are guaranteed for workers to take active breaks during the daily workday.</p> <p>Workers are granted at least 1 consecutive 24- hour rest day for every 6 days worked.</p>	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
2.4	Are workers given breaks according to the current national labor legislation?	In case of having to work on the rest day, workers are guaranteed compensatory rest according to what is established in the current and applicable national legislation. Paid breaks are granted to workers for public holidays, annual vacations, maternity or paternity leave, sick leave, among others, in accordance with the provisions of current and applicable national legislation.	1
NO CHILD LABOR			
2.5	Are all workers over 18 years of age?	No individuals under the age of 18 years of age at the time of commencement can be hired under any circumstance. In the event an individual under the age of 18 years of age is found working directly or indirectly, effective remedial measures must be taken, putting the best interest of the minor first. The remedial measures must be documented and verified. Action must be taken to prevent recurrence There is a mechanism to verify the age of all workers and these records are maintained.	1
NO DISCRIMINATION OR ABUSE			
2.6	Does the production unit ban any practices that promote or tolerate abuse, persecution, discrimination, inequity, hindrance or lack of protection for workers?	The workers are hired, remunerated, promoted and trained without discrimination, and treated with respect and dignity. Individuals are contracted for their ability to perform the work, and not on the basis of personal characteristics or beliefs. Discrimination in the workplace is not allowed, supported or tolerated, including with respect to recruitment, hiring, training courses, working conditions, work assignments, salaries, benefits, promotions, discipline, rescission, or retirement due to gender, age, religion, marital status, race, caste, social class, illness, disability, pregnancy, ethnic or national origin, nationality, political affiliation, sexual orientation, or any other personal characteristic.	1
2.6	Does the production unit ban any practices that promote or tolerate abuse, persecution, discrimination, inequity, hindrance or lack of protection for workers?	The workers' representatives or members of trade unions and other workers' organizations are not discriminated against or penalized because of their membership or affiliation to a union or workers' organization. It is guaranteed that neither pregnancy tests nor any other test prohibited by the current applicable legislation are carried out during the selection process. In no case is discrimination against being pregnant tolerated. No intimidation, harassment or abuse of any kind will be exercised or tolerated. The rules of coexistence are promoted. There is one or several mechanisms in place to prevent workplace harassment and manage the cases that may arise. The prevention and management mechanisms for workplace harassment are explained to the workers, and they must be clear and easily understood.	1
FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING			
2.7	Does the workplace respect workers' right and freedom of participation, association and collective bargaining?	The production unit respects the workers' freedom of association, negotiation and the freedom of democratic participation, per current and applicable Labor Law, as well as per ratified ILO conventions. The following information is kept: a) Records of the formation actions related to worker's labor rights and duties and other social and labor issues.	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
2.7	Does the workplace respect workers' right and freedom of participation, association and collective bargaining?	<p>b) Records of the democratic election and participation of workers' representatives in the organization, implementation and follow-up of the different spaces created to promote improved work and social dialogue conditions.</p> <p>c) In case that some allowed form of collective contract is implemented such as collective pacts, trade union contracts and collective conventions, the production unit possess records of the establishment, implementation and follow-up. Should trade unions or collective associations be restricted by law, there are alternative mechanisms to guarantee and respect the workers' right to participate and/or associate, as contemplated in international labor norms.</p> <p>[Cross reference: This requirement is related with requirements: 2.6 "...There is no discrimination or punitive measure for the representatives of workers..." 4.5 "...committee... made up of representatives of management and workers..." and 4.27 SGSST – "...be internally accountable to workers"]</p>	1
WORK PRACTICES			
2.8	Have the workplace internal regulations been published?	The internal workplace regulations are documented, disseminated and updated in accordance with current and applicable legislation. The regulations are published in two visible points of the production unit.	1
2.9	Do workers have a written work contract?	Before the being employed, workers are clearly informed about the key terms and working conditions in a medium they understand. Hiring regulations are observed and are consistent with current and applicable laws. There are written work contracts for all workers.	1
2.9	Do workers have a written work contract?	Contracts are written in local language and include at least the following information: Worker's name and ID number; address of the contracting parties; date and place where the contract is signed; location where the worker is hired and where he or she is going to perform duties; nature of the work; wage, form of payment and payment periods; contract duration and causes for termination. There is proof that a copy of the contract and any additional clauses has been handed to the worker.	
2.10	Are procedures for disciplinary actions implemented?	There is a documented procedure for the management of disciplinary actions, written in clear and understandable terms for the workers and which is observed in accordance with the terms of the internal workplace regulations. Disciplinary actions are applied to workers following a due process. These actions are recorded and kept in the worker's personal file.	1
2.11	Is the employment termination formalized according to current and applicable legislation?	The termination of the work contract is backed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A letter stating the reason for ending the work contract. b) A job certification. c) A letter to the unemployment savings fund. d) An appointment for the exit medical test. e) Final and timely payment of all employment benefits. 	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
2.12	Do workers give exit interviews when they leave the workplace?	The production unit carries out exit interviews for workers whose contract ends, and the results of the interviews are subsequently analyzed.	2
2.13	Are workers' CVs updated and filed properly?	The production unit keeps files with updated documents relevant to the work contract of direct workers, from the starting day until the final day of the contract. Documents are kept safely to avoid their loss or deterioration.	1
2.14	If the production unit engage apprentices, does it observe the regulations established in current and applicable legislation?	The production unit keeps all the required legal documentation required by the country's regulatory authority to formalize apprenticeship contracts. The production unit keeps the framework cooperation convention with the education institution and the current apprenticeship contracts for each of the apprentices.	1
SALARIES AND REMUNERATION			
2.15	Are salaries paid correctly and on time?	<p>Wages are paid directly to the worker or in a bank account on their name, in legal local currency. Wages are paid in a regular basis and on time and in full, in accordance with current and applicable legislation. In the case of any payment or benefit in kind as a part of the salary remuneration, it must be made in accordance with what is permitted in the legislation of the country and must be written in the terms and conditions of employment.</p> <p>Salary payments meet or exceed applicable legal minimum wages, industry standards or collective agreements, whichever is higher.</p> <p>In the event that the worker is paid by a pay rate of pay for production, quota or piecework, it allows workers to earn at least a wage which respectively meets or exceeds applicable, the current legal minimum wage or industry standards or collective bargaining agreements (where applicable) within normal working hours.</p> <p>Evidence of receipt of receipts for payment of wages, social benefits and deductions to the worker is maintained, in accordance with the conditions established in the contract. The pay stubs, deductions and salary increases are easy for the worker to understand. To ensure their understanding, the worker is trained on the terms of hiring, payments and deductions. No deductions from wages are made unless permitted by applicable national legal requirements or a collective agreement. Salary increases are documented and communicated to the worker.</p> <p>Workers are compensated for all overtime at a higher rate as required by applicable national legal requirements or a collective bargaining agreement.</p>	1
2.16	Are social security and parafiscal contributions payments made correctly and on time?	<p>All the social security payments for the workers are made to the designated entities, per current and applicable legislation. Parafiscal contributions or the equivalent are made in accordance with current and applicable legislation.</p> <p>Access to medical and education services is promoted among workers and their families.</p>	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
2.17	Are deposits and paperwork with regards to the unemployment savings fund made correctly and on time?	Each year, the production unit deposits the required amounts for each worker in the unemployment saving funds designated for this purpose, per current and applicable law. In case a worker needs to withdraw a portion of the savings, the production unit does all the paperwork required by the law.	1
2.18	Are work clothes and shoes required to perform duties given out to workers on time?	Workers are given their work clothes and shoes in the dates established by current and applicable law. The production unit keeps records signed by the workers to demonstrate they have received their clothes and shoes on time.	1
SUB-CONTRACTING			
2.19	Is there a procedure in place for hiring third parties?	There is a written procedure on the different modalities for hiring third parties, which defines the selection and evaluation criteria for contractors and a list of those who are considered as priority for the productive process. The production unit demonstrates that priority contractors meet the requirements of the Florverde regulations applicable to the service they provide and throughout their operation. Evidence of compliance with the applicable requirements will be available in the production unit during the external inspection.	1
2.20	Does the production unit have written contracts for hired third parties?	There are current written contracts between the company and the contractors (who can in turn be individual contractors or companies.) Contracts with third parties must include at least the following clauses: type of work; duration and form of payment; type of work relationship between the contractor and the workers; responsibility in terms of social security payments; provision of work clothes; compliance with hygiene and safety internal regulations; and a clause on occupational health management which includes the provision of PPE for contractors or subcontractors.	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
2.21	Are there written contracts or commercial offers with temporary services companies per labor legislation?	When the production unit hires a temporary services company, it has current written contracts between the two parties. All contracts must include at least the following clauses: type of work; duration and form of payment; type of work relationship between the contractor and its workers; responsibility in terms of social security and parafiscal payments; provision of work clothes; compliance with hygiene and safety internal regulations; and a clause on occupational health management which includes the provision of PPE for workers on assignment. The production unit may not extend a contract with one same person for more than two (2) periods of six (6) months each, or sign a contract with a new company if the task or need to be fulfilled which is the object of the contract still exists.	1
2.21	Are there written contracts or commercial offers with temporary services companies per labor legislation?	There is a copy of the written approval issued by the relevant authority to the temporary services company to provide the required services, and a copy of the current contractual insurance policy. There is a control mechanism in place to verify the existence of a contract between the temporary services company and the worker on assignment.	
2.22	Are there written contracts with cooperatives or associated work organizations per current legislation?	When the production unit hires a cooperative or an associated work organization, it has current written contracts with the cooperative or associated work organization. All contracts must include at least the following clauses: type of work; duration and form of payment; type of work relationship between the contractor and the associated worker; responsibility in terms of social security payments; provision of work clothes; compliance with hygiene and safety internal regulations; and a clause on occupational health management which includes the provision of PPE for associated workers. There is copy of the approval, issued by the relevant authority, of the remuneration and social security schemes of the cooperative or associated work organization. There is also evidence that the charter of the cooperative or associated work organization is being observed, and that the remuneration schemes are being followed. There is a control mechanism to verify the work relationship between the associated worker and the cooperative or associated worker organization.	1
2.23	Is there control over the payment of wages and social security of third parties (priority contractors, including companies, temporary services companies and associated work cooperatives et. al.)?	There is a mechanism in place to manage the social security payments of third party workers to the entities designated for that purpose, per current national legislation. There is control over the payment of wages and other work benefits, including parafiscal payments or those required by current and applicable legislation, as well as payments aimed at the promotion of the education and early childhood of workers' children. Actions to guarantee the improvement of the conditions for third parties are taken depending on the outcomes of the management mechanism. This provision applies to workers throughout the duration of the contractor's operation.	1

3 WORKERS EDUCATION, TRAINING AND WELFARE



Education and training are activities that provide knowledge and help to develop concepts, aptitudes, attitudes, skills and abilities to perform a job in an optimal manner. This, in turn, contributes to the achievement of organizational goals and objectives, as well as to the self-fulfilment of workers. Programs focused on welfare constitute an effective way to improve the physical and mental health conditions of workers, while encouraging stronger integration among them by providing a pleasant work environment and the acknowledgment of their work. This chapter aims to provide guidelines so that the production unit can improve the quality of life of its workers through their education, training and well-being while further developing their physical, mental, social and cultural conditions, and those of their families and communities.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
TRAINING AND COACHING			
3.1	Is there a training program based on the needs identified in the production unit?	<p>A documented training program is in place including at least the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A diagnosis of coaching and training needs which is updated every year and covers every worker, task and hierarchical level in the production unit. b) The coaching and training actions listed by positions and types of tasks, according to the social, environmental and quality components of this norm on its laboral, health and safety, environmental and quality components. c) The contents of the coaching and training actions, classified by topics. d) Updated records of trained staff, which should include the topic, trainer, dates of training, number of hours and a list of participants with their signatures. e) Records of the evaluation of training and coaching actions which show that the objectives have been met. f) Indicators. <p>Training program is carried out during remunerated working hours and at no cost to the worker.</p>	1
WELLBEING			
3.2.	Do workers have additional benefits?	There are additional benefits available for workers, which stem from core principles such as the promotion of health, recreation, work flexibility, landmark celebrations, ongoing training, subsidies and financial assistance, among others.	2

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
3.3	Does the production unit have facilities to allow workers to eat their meals?	<p>There are canteens available for workers so they can keep and eat their meals. The production unit guarantees these facilities meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) They have a smooth floor which can be cleaned easily, a roof and enough tables and seats for all the workers including contractors. b) They are comfortable, clean and hygienic. c) There is room available to store food. <p>Workers are aware that they are not allowed to heat or eat food in any places other than those designated by the production unit for this purpose.</p>	1
3.4	Are there change rooms and lockers available to workers?	<p>There are change rooms and lockers available to all workers, including contractors. The production unit guarantees that the facilities meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Change rooms are separated by sex. b) They have appropriate ventilation and their floors are hard and washable. c) They are clean and tidy. 	
3.5	Are there support projects or actions for the community where the production unit is based?	The production unit has support measures for the community and there is evidence of those measures.	2
3.6	If the production unit provides transportation to its premises for the workers, is it safe?	If the production unit provides transportation services to and from the workplace, it must guarantee the quality and safety of the vehicles used for this purpose. The production unit controls the conditions under which transportation is carried out, and meets and current legal requirements with regards to travel on public roads.	1
3.7	¿Children from workers living on site are not prevented from attending schools by the producer?	The producer guarantee that children of contracted workers living on-site including children of migrant and temporary/seasonal workers are not prevented from attending schools by the producer.	1

4 HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT IN THE WORKPLACE



This chapter aims to provide guidelines which lead to improving the work conditions and environment, as well as the workers' health, so as to promote and maintain their physical, mental and social well-being. It is based on international conventions and guidelines defined by the ILO, which facilitate an improved performance by workers and better conditions in their work environment. Some of the conventions include the following:

- C017** Workers' Compensation (Accidents) Convention (1925)
- C018** Occupational Diseases Convention (1925) and ratified on June 20th, 1993
- C025** Sickness Insurance Convention (Agriculture) (1927)
- C155** Occupational Health and Safety of Workers Convention (1981)
- C161** Occupational Health Services Convention (1985)
- R 164** Occupational Safety and Health Recommendation (1981)

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY SYSTEM POLICY AND OBJECTIVES			
4.1	Is there an existing health and safety management system in the workplace?	There is a documented and current health and safety management system in the workplace, which is compliant with current and applicable legislation. As a minimum, the management system shall meet the following criteria: a) Be adapted to the specific size and features of the production unit. b) Have clear goals, objectives and indicators. c) Have clearly defined resources and responsibilities. d) Be integrated with other management systems. e) Have a defined process for the preservation of documents. f) Have an annual workplan.	1
4.2	Is there a health and safety policy in the workplace?	There is a written workplace health and safety policy which forms part of the production unit's management policies. It covers all work units and workers, regardless of the types of contract that cover them. The policy therefore covers contractors and sub-contractors and shall be conveyed to the joint committee or the inspector, and be signed and dated by the company's legal representative. The policy shall be reviewed at least once a year and updated to reflect any changes. [Cross reference with requirement 1.2 of the Management system]	1
4.3	Is there a published hygiene and industrial safety regulation?	There is a hygiene and industrial safety regulation published in two visible locations of the production unit, which is duly observed and adjusted to current and applicable legislation as required. The regulation is updated whenever any changes are made to the procedures or the intake of new inputs, equipment or machinery, as long as the changes involve risks not contemplated in the previous regulation.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY SYSTEM (HSS)			
4.4	Is there a manager appointed in writing to be responsible for the health and safety of the workers in the organization?	There is a manager appointed to be responsible for health and safety in the workplace, and whose profile must meet the requirements outlined in current and applicable legislation. The appointed manager has completed an approved training course in health and safety management systems, with a minimum duration of 50 hours.	1
4.5	Is there a committee that includes workers' representatives to promote health and safety in the workplace?	There is a working committee made up of representatives of management and workers, all of them elected democratically. There is proof that the committee meets periodically, at least once a month, and there are acts or records of the meetings to demonstrate active participation by committee members. Members of the committee undertake periodic inspections (announced and unannounced) to identify possible risks and suggest control measures. Committee members attend training sessions on health, safety and hygiene norms and regulations.	1
ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH AND WORK CONDITIONS			
4.6	Is there a diagnosis of the health conditions of workers?	There is a current and documented diagnosis of the health conditions of workers, based on the latest annual records of : a) Sick leave. b) Statistics and investigations on workplace-related accidents or diseases. c) Periodic medical examinations, in accordance with existing disease surveillance systems in the workplace. d) Data on perceived morbidity and medical appointments, if available. e) Socio-demographic profiles. For production units with less than 25 workers, or in accordance with current and applicable legislation, the document containing the diagnosis of workers' health conditions may be based on surveys of self-reports which are designed and analyzed by a health professional for this purpose.	1
4.7	Have the risks entailed in carrying out tasks or following procedures in the company been identified so as to allow their prioritization and the planning and establishment of the required control measures?	There are safe and hygienic work environments, based on a documented risk assessment. This assessment is reviewed and updated annually or when significant changes occur in the procedures, the intake of new inputs, equipment or machinery, among others. The risk assessment contains at least the following: a) Identification, assessment and prioritization of safety and hygiene risks entailed in both direct tasks and contracted ones. b) Definition of existing risk control mechanisms in the production unit. c) An annual implementation plan for the recommended control mechanisms, based on risk prioritization and available budget or resources. Field work demonstrates that existing risk control mechanisms are adequate and working.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
4.8	There is an initial self-assessment of the health and safety management system in the workplace.	A self-assessment of the workplace health and safety management system is carried out by skilled personnel, as determined in current and applicable legislation.	1
4.9	Is there an action plan that fits in with the health diagnosis, the risk assessment and the self-assessment in the workplace?	There is an action plan signed by the employer and the person responsible for the workplace health and safety management system. The plan is executed on an annual basis and aims to implement measures aimed at the prevention and control of risks or key hazards that may affect the health of workers. As a minimum, the plan must include: a) Goals, target population, activities, accountability and indicators b) Timeline c) Resources	1
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, INDUCTION AND RE-INDUCTION IN THE SAFETY, HEALTH AND HYGIENE			
4.10	Is there a safety, health and hygiene education, training, induction and re-induction program in the workplace?	There is a structured and documented training program on how to identify hazards and control work-related risks and hygiene conditions in every level of the organization, including staff members, contractors, third party workers and workers hired for a specific mission. The company demonstrates that the training program is given by qualified personnel, with due regard to current and applicable legislation. The training program is reviewed at least once a year, with involvement from the joint committee or the inspector for health and safety in the workplace, as well as top management of the production unit. Training is repeated for workers or members of the managerial team who are new or changing their position. The company keeps relevant records to demonstrate that workers have been trained per the established training program and that they apply the rules and procedures learned during the training program. [Cross reference: with requirement 3.1 of Training]	1
PREVENTIVE AND OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE			
4.11	Are medical examinations carried out in the workplace for occupational and epidemiological surveillance purposes?	Pre-employment and post-employment medical examinations are given to company workers, as well as periodically while employed, in line with existing epidemiological surveillance systems. The pre-employment medical aptitude medical test must be signed by a certified physician. The company guarantees that every medical history is strictly confidential. The company facilitates workers' access to the results or their medical tests and covers the costs of all occupational medical examinations.	1
4.12	Are there health promotion and illness prevention campaigns in the workplace?	Health promotion and illness prevention campaigns are carried out in the workplace, consistent with the diagnoses of health conditions covering every worker. The cost of the campaigns are paid by the company.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
4.13	Are there relocation or retraining programs in place for workers following the recommendations of health insurance companies?	The company has relocation or retraining programs which follow the recommendations issued by health insurance companies and are consistent with those issued by the occupational health and safety division of the production unit. The company develops follow-up activities for the workers who have been relocated or retrained.	2
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE WORKPLACE (HSMS)			
4.14	Is there an emergency response plan in place?	<p>The production unit has an emergency response plan which contains at least the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A vulnerability analysis, which is updated and prioritized taking into account the specific features of the production unit, including bodies of water (oceans, lakes, rivers, springs, wetlands, reservoirs, irrigation channels, among others) b) A written inventory of the human and physical resources available in the event of an emergency. c) Written information on the location of the resources available for an emergency response. d) Emergency evacuation equipment and survival gear must be accessible in quantity and quality according to the size of the production unit and the level of risk. e) Field inspections of fire extinguishers, alarms, stretchers, eye washers, emergency exits, water sources to extinguish fires, and location of the power circuit breakers and gas cut-off valves. f) Location of fire extinguishers in different areas of the production unit depending on the identified risks. g) Evacuation plan. h) Have appropriate health and safety procedures around the bodies of water that are near or directly connected to the production unit i) Publication in visible areas of telephone numbers for the Police, ambulance service, hospitals and firefighters. j) An operational emergency brigade. k) Training given to emergency brigade members on topics including first aid, fire fighting and emergency evacuation. l) Evidence that emergency drills have been carried out in the last year, and that all workers have been involved. m) A first aid kit permanently available in order to guarantee quick assistance to workers who suffer accidents. n) Emergency exits that allow the fast and safe evacuation of personnel in case of emergency, with appropriate signalling and emergency lights. o) At least one person of the brigade trained in first aid must be present during the workday. The training must have taken place within the last two years. There must be at least one person from the brigade with first aid training for every 50 workers. 	1
4.15	Is there adequate signalling available for the specific conditions of the production unit?	The production unit has informative, prevention, emergency and obligatory signalling, depending on the conditions and risks previously identified. Emergency signs shall be photoluminescent in places where it is required.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
4.16	Are the areas in the production unit appropriately marked, based on the risks that have been previously identified?	The work and circulation areas in the production unit are defined, marked and cleared based on identified risks. The same applies machinery areas, evacuation ways and storage areas.	1
4.17	Are workers given the required PPE?	Workers are given the required personal protection equipment (PPE) at no cost. Additionally, the production unit shall demonstrate that the following items are available: a) Written information on required PPEs, and dates for their replacement or substitution, for each of the work areas or tasks, depending on the identified risks. b) Records of delivery and replacement of the PPEs for each of the tasks that require them, depending on the nature of the risk. c) Records of training on the use and maintenance of the PPEs. d) Field inspection to ensure workers use the PPEs adequately and that they are in good condition. [Cross reference: Requirement 7.21 refers to the obligation to provide the necessary PPEs to personnel who handle or apply pesticides.]	1
4.18	Are safety norms observed during the operation of equipment, machinery and tools?	There are safety norms that support risk and hazard controls in the production unit. These norms are documented in the official local language and are known and applied by the users. There are records of training given to personnel who handle equipment, machinery and tools.	1
4.19	Do workers know how to safely handle and apply dangerous chemical substances used in the production process?	The production unit keeps a list and safety sheets of the dangerous chemical substances used in the production process. The telephone numbers of the entities to report any accident or emergency caused by the use or hazardous substances are available. Every worker who handles or applies dangerous chemical substances has been trained on the procedures and practices to use these substances safely. Training programs must cover at least the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content of the labels and safety sheets and instructions on to use them • Correct use of the personal protection equipment • Prevention and response to emergencies (accidents and spills) There are records to demonstrate that workers have been trained and how they apply the knowledge and procedures learned in the training sessions. [Cross reference: Requirement 6.19 refers to the obligation to provide training in the safe handling of fertilizers, and requirement 7.18 refers to the obligation to provide training in the safe handling of pesticides.]	1
4.20	Are there safety norms for the storage of raw materials and inputs?	The production unit guarantees the observance of safety norms where inputs and raw materials other than pesticides and fertilizers are stored. See 6.20 and 6.21, find requirements for fertilizers' storage. See 7.23, 7.24 and 7.25 to find requisitions for pesticides' storage.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
4.21	Are work areas kept clean and tidy?	Workplaces, work areas and pathways are kept clean and tidy. The accumulation of garbage, waste material and useless objects is forbidden. However, residues resulting from the day-to-day work are acceptable. There is evidence that workers know and apply the rules, procedures or instructions regarding cleanliness and tidyness in their respective work areas.	1
4.22	Are there established hygiene and safety procedures and instructions and do workers know them?	Hygiene and safety procedures and instructions are disseminated among workers through signs or notifications posted in visible areas such as restrooms, canteens, locker rooms, parking lots, buses and recreational areas where available. The norms include at least the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing • Drinking water • Limitations to smoking, eating and drinking in work areas • How to advise about accidents • Handling of personal protection equipment • Safety norms for handling machinery There is evidence that workers observe the above procedures and instructions.	1
4.23	Do workers have adequate hygiene services?	The production unit offers workers hygiene services and sanitary facilities in good condition, and these are separated by sex. The units are equipped with toilet paper, basins, hand soap and drying equipment or elements, as well as toilet paper dispensers. There is one toilet available for every 15 (fifteen) workers. In men's restrooms, there may be a combination of toilets and urinals, as long as the mentioned ratio is kept. When the number of workers in the production unit is less than 15 (fifteen), there is no need to have the sanitary units separated by sex. The sanitary units are at a reasonable distance from the work place; not exceeding 500 meters.	1
4.24	Is drinking water supplied to workers?	There is drinking water available for the workers and there is an adequate procedure for the handling, storage and management of drinking water. Microbiological analyses are carried out at least twice a year, in two different locations where drinking water is provided. If the production unit has drinking water treatment plants, it must meet the parameters required by current legislation unless the water is bottled or is purchased from a seller approved by the relevant authority. Sharing of water cups shall not be allowed.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
4.25	Are there safe conditions in the workplace?	<p>Safe conditions are provided in all workplaces and in the workers' homes, if they are supplied. The solidity, stability and safety of buildings and equipment, including workers' homes, are guaranteed.</p> <p>There are adequate measures in place against fire, including in the workers' homes. The fire exits, escape routes, fire extinguishing equipment, and smoke alarms are signaled according to the emergency response plan. Fire exits and escape routes are kept clear of obstacles, allowing a quick and safe exit in the case of an emergency.</p> <p>All workers are informed and aware of emergency and fire safety procedures.</p> <p>All workers are allowed to withdraw from a serious or imminent danger without requesting permission.</p> <p>[Cross reference: this requirement is related to requirement 4.14, emergency response plan].</p>	2
4.26	Is housing for workers adequate?	<p>If housing is provided for workers in the workplace, it is guaranteed that they have clean and safe conditions. As a minimum, houses must have a roof, floor, windows, exterior doors, potable water services, basic sanitation and electricity. They are independent from each other, and from the production areas, avoiding exposure to pesticides, toxic substances and other hazards.</p>	2
REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION OF WORK INCIDENTS, ACCIDENTS AND WORK-RELATED ILLNESSES			
4.27	Are work incidents and accidents reported, and are they investigated and addressed?	<p>There are written procedures for the reporting and response to work-related incidents and accidents, and they are displayed in visible places and known by the workers. In case of a work accident, first aid shall be provided to the person or persons affected and all accidents must be reported to the insurance company. Work-related illnesses and major or fatal accidents must be reported to relevant authorities.</p> <p>Records of work-related illnesses and incidents or accidents are recorded. Work incidents and accidents, and work-related illnesses are investigated in accordance with current and applicable regulations, and action plans are implemented based on the analysis of the causes of the accident or incident. Lessons learned from work accidents are disseminated in the areas where they occurred.</p>	1
4.28	Is there an appropriate accountability system in the production unit?	<p>Staff members who have been given responsibilities for the Workplace Health and Safety Management System shall be internally accountable to the workers regarding the performance of the system. Account may be given via written, electronic or verbal means, or in any other ways deemed acceptable by those who are accountable. Account will be given at least once a year and must be documented.</p>	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
4.29	Is there an indicator of worker absenteeism due to illness and is it recorded and analyzed?	Information on absenteeism due to illness is recorded every month in the "System of socio-environmental indicators for floriculture". An annual analysis is carried to document the results and trends of the indicators, based on the reports issued by the system. Top management is briefed on the indicator analysis with a view to allowing for the design and implementation of actions aimed at reducing the absenteeism indicators, depending on how much they can be influenced or controlled.	1
CRITERIA FOR THE PURCHASING OF GOODS OR CONTRACTING OF SERVICES BASED ON HSMS REGULATIONS			
4.30	Are health and safety regulations in the workplace met by third parties?	Before contractors or subcontractors begin carrying out their tasks, and thereafter on a periodic basis, the production unit shall verify that they meet the obligation to affiliate their own personnel to the general social security system, taking into account the staff turnover among contractors and subcontractors, and current and relevant legislation. There are safe procedures in place for the work or tasks carried out by third parties. They are advised in writing about the health and safety procedures they shall meet, and their compliance with such procedures is demonstrated. Visitors are advised about the health, safety and hygiene conditions they must meet during their visit to the premises.	1
4.31	Is the safe handling of food prepared in the production unit guaranteed?	When food is prepared in the production unit, the safe handling of food items must be guaranteed through the following measures: a) Periodic training of food handlers, recorded in all training plans. b) An aptitude clearance based on the results of the periodic medical examinations carried out in the last year. c) Optimal hygiene and cleanliness conditions wherever the food is prepared or stored.	1
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION IN HSS			
4.32	Are there indicators to monitor the workplace health and safety management system?	Qualitative and quantitative indicators are defined in order to evaluate the structure, process and results of the workplace health and safety management system. The results of the indicators will be measured and monitored at least once a year, per the established timeline. These indicators should be consistent with the production unit's strategic plan.	1
4.33	Is the workplace health and safety management system reviewed at least once a year by top management?	The production unit shall demonstrate that top management reviews the unit's level of compliance with the workplace health and safety management system at least once a year. This review of the health and safety management system must be included as part of the planned annual review that top management carries out for all the requirements of the Florverde Standard. [Cross reference: with requirement 1.5 of the Management system]	1

5 WATER MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION



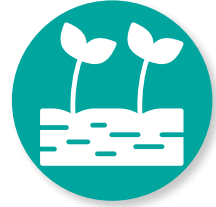
Water is the main ingredient of all agricultural activities which would be impossible to carry out without this resource; however, it is becoming less available given its demand, contamination and large-scale problems such as climate change. Through Florverde® Sustainable Flowers, responsible and rational water use is encouraged in order to contribute to its long-term preservation and guarantee its availability; in turn, ensuring continued production of flowers and ornamentals by controlling the uptake and consumption of water, the use of rain water, the implementation of efficient irrigation techniques and systems, and water reuse, among other alternatives.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
EFFICIENT USE AND WATER SAVING			
5.1	Do they have inventoried the sources of water that they use and permission for its catchment from the pertinent authority?	The water sources used on the crops have been inventoried and the current water concession or the application filed with the competent environmental authority is available. If the water concession is being processed, evidence is available to prove that action has been taken during the last year before the authority regarding its status.	1
5.2	Are the conditions established in the water concession being met?	If they have the water concession, compliance with the conditions established in it is demonstrated. The annual volume of water collected from surface or underground sources must not exceed the annual volume granted in the water concession.	2
5.3	Do they have records of captured water volumes and do these come from sources approved by the pertinent authority?	Updated records of the volumes of water collected from surface or underground sources are available. Water volume data should come from structures or measurement equipment installed, which should be operating in the places approved by the relevant environmental authority. This requirement does not apply to production units that rely solely on rain water, unless required by the relevant environmental authority.	1
5.4	Have the volumes of water applied in irrigation been determined taking into account the hydrological requirements of the crop?	Calculations of irrigation water volumes are based on crop characteristics, as well as measurements of climate, and soil or substrate, as applicable. Records of such calculations are made available. It is ensured that the equipment or measuring tools used to determine irrigation needs are reliable and in good working order. This requirement does not apply to production units that do not have irrigation systems, but rely solely on rain water.	2

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
5.5	Do they have records of irrigation water consumption?	They have up-to-date records that indicate the date and volume of water applied in irrigation and fertigation. Data regarding the volumes of water applied in irrigation and fertigation are obtained using meters. When working with automated irrigation and fertigation programs, they have records of the calculated volumes of water and volumes actually used. This requirement does not apply to production units that do not have irrigation systems.	2
5.6	Do they have records and analyses of the catchment indicator and water consumption?	Information of the catchment and consumption of irrigation water is recorded monthly in the "Floriculture's Social and Environmental Indicators System". According to the reports produced by the indicators system, an annual analysis of trends and causes of catchment levels and water consumption is performed. This information may be part of the efficient use and water saving program [Cross Reference: Requirement 5.7].	2
5.7	Do they have a five-year program for the efficient use and saving of water?	They must have documented and implemented a five-year program for efficient water use and saving which contains at least the following information: a) A diagnosis of the water resources' supply and demand. b) Objectives, goals and actions to reduce the catchment of water from the supply sources or optimize consumption in previously identified production processes. c) A schedule that demonstrates annually the compliance of the implementation of the program's actions and the allocated resources. d) Indicators that demonstrate the fulfillment of the objectives and targets, showing improvement every year. Senior management annually reviews the progress in the implementation of the program. If adjustments to the program are required, they must be approved by senior management. This requirement does not apply to production units that rely solely on rain water, unless required by the relevant environmental authority. [Cross Reference: this requirement is related to requirement 1.5, managerial reviews].	1
5.8	Are efficient irrigation systems used?	They should have an irrigation system that rationally uses water; otherwise, they must show that they have considered the technical and economic viability of such a system, and have a plan to implement one in the future. This requirement does not apply to production units that do not have irrigation systems, but rely solely on rain water.	1
5.9	Is rain water used on the crop?	Rain water is used on the crop and this is demonstrated by: a) Infrastructure for the catchment, management, storage, and use of rain water, and plans consistent with the existing field installations. b) Water assessment which considers the proportion of rain water used on the crop during the last year. In cases where it is not technically or economically viable to take advantage of rain water, a justification must be a documented.	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
5.10	Is there a risk assessment of availability of the water resources the water resources used in the production unit?	There is a risk assessment that considers the availability and contamination of the water resources at a local level, conflicts related to the water, regulatory constraints, and climate change, among other possible risks. This assessment also considers the impact of the production unit on the water resources in its environment, as long as publicly available information has been attained. This risk assessment is used for the efficient use and water saving program [Cross Reference: Requirement 5.7].	2
5.11	Are you actively involved in efforts to improve local catchments?	They are involved in water catchment planning, which includes cooperation with the relevant environmental authorities and associated organizations to identify targets and measure the progress of these goals. This includes participation in meetings related to water catchment management and contribution to the planning processes for the improvement and mitigation of water risks that may affect the sustainability of the activity.	3
WATER QUALITY			
5.12	Is the use of treated wastewater or from possibly contaminated water sources for irrigation justified?	It is shown that for irrigation or fertigation, no wastewater of urban origin is used without treatment. When treated wastewater or water that comes from possibly contaminated sources is used, an analyses has been carried out that demonstrates compliance with the permissible criteria for agricultural use required by current applicable law.	1
5.13	Has a risk assessment of the quality of the water used in the crop been carried out?	They have results of a risk assessment based on a physiochemical analysis of the water used in irrigation, focusing on the potential risks for the crop. The frequency of the analysis should be defined according to the characteristics of the crop and the origin of the water used for irrigation or fertigation. The samples must be taken at the point where the water that is used for irrigation or fertigation is captured. The risk assessment is reviewed annually and updated every time there are changes in the water supply system or when something happens that could lead to the contamination of the system. [Cross reference: the post-harvest water quality criteria are addressed in requirement 12.13 and the water dumping quality criteria in the requirements 8.10, 8.12, 8.13 y 8.14]	2
5.14	In case of finding adverse results in the risk assessment of the water used on the crop, have they taken the necessary steps required?	There is evidence to demonstrate the decisions taken in order to improve the conditions of the water used on the crop.	2
5.15	Is the laboratory that performs the analysis of the water used on the crops accredited?	The laboratory which carries out the water quality analysis must be accredited in the ISO17025 standard or an equivalent standard, or accredited by the pertinent national authority.	2

6 SOIL CONSERVATION, SUBSTRATE AND FERTILIZATION MANAGEMENT



Proper soil management, including substrates and fertilizers, helps reduce input costs, conserves soil, and minimizes contamination risks. The objective is to implement strategies that prevent physical deterioration of soil and prevent erosion. Fertilization should be based on crop needs and the characteristics of the soil or substrate to prevent loss of nutrients or contamination. When the soil is replaced with a substrate as a means for growth and development of crops, it is necessary to evaluate and take steps to minimize the impact these systems can cause on the environment. The safe handling of fertilizers helps prevent and control risks in connection to the health of people and natural systems.

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
SUBSTRATE USE			
6.1	When natural substrates are used, are we sure that they do not come from conservation areas?	Records must be kept in order to be able to trace the origin of the natural substrates used and demonstrate that they do not come from areas designated for conservation or other protected areas.	2
6.2	Are substrates reused?	If substrates are reused it is necessary to provide evidence that details the amounts used and date of use. If substrates are not reused, the reason for this must be justified. Substrates that are not reused are properly disposed of. [Cross Reference: this requirement is related to requirement 8.8, management of plant waste generated in the production process].	2
6.3	In the case where water vapor is not used to sterilize reused substrates, but chemical products are used instead, is this process carried out safely?	If water vapor is not used to sterilize reused substrates, but chemical products are used instead, records that indicate the product and active ingredient used, date of treatment, equipment and method employed, name of the operators responsible for carrying out the application and safety period for pre-planting must be provided. If the sterilization of the substrate is performed outside of the production unit, documentation indicating the name of the company that performed the sterilization and the active product and ingredient used, as well as the safety procedures under which the chemicals were applied must be kept. If water vapor is used for the sterilization of the substrates before its reuse, the necessary documentation that provides evidence of this must be provided.	1
6.4	Is control of leachates carried out for crops that are raised off the ground in order to make sure that they do not drain into the soil or into natural water bodies?	Leachate recollection and storage systems are provided, and appropriate methods are available for their use either inside or outside of the production unit. In case it is not technically or economically viable to reuse leachates inside or outside the production unit, documentation that justifies this must be provided.	2

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
SOIL MANAGEMENT			
6.5	Are the soil types identified for the different crop areas?	The types of soil in the different crop areas are identified and documented based on the profile, on the physical analysis or on a local or regional cartographic map. This requirement does not apply to substrate crops.	3
6.6	Have alternatives been evaluated before resorting to fumigating the soil with chemicals?	It must be shown that different alternatives have been evaluated, including local expertise or accepted practices, before using chemical fumigation for soil sterilization	3
6.7	If chemicals are used for the disinfection of soils, is it done safely?	When using chemicals to disinfect the soil, written evidence and justification must be provided. Records indicating the product and active ingredient used, area of the treated crop, date of treatment, dosage used, machinery and method employed, as well as the names of the operators responsible for carrying out the application must be kept. Safety periods for pre-planting must also be complied with and registered.	1
6.8	Is methyl bromide for soil disinfection used?	The use of methyl bromide as an alternative for disinfection of soil or other uses is not permitted.	1
6.9	Are techniques to reduce soil erosion applied?	Appropriate techniques related to conservation, as well as corrective measures, are applied to reduce soil erosion.	2
6.10	Are techniques to improve or maintain soil structure used?	Adequate soil preparation techniques are used, in order to maintain or improve soil structure, its physical properties, and prevent compaction. Burning is not permitted for soil preparation. This requirement does not apply to substrate crops.	2
6.11	Is there, where feasible, crop rotation for annual crops?	When rotations of annual crops to improve soil structure and minimize soil borne pests and diseases are done, this can be verified from planting date and/or plant protection product application records. Records shall exist for the previous 2-year rotation.	2
MONITORING OF NUTRITIONAL NEEDS			
6.12	Is the fertilization is carried out according to the nutritional needs of the crop?	Fertilization decisions are based on a program aimed at meeting the needs of the crop and minimizing nutrient losses. The program should be supported with the results of periodic soil or foliar analysis, according to the crop type. In the fertilization program, the nutrient contributions from the water used for irrigation should be considered, as well as the nutrients from the organic matter that has been applied to the crop.	2
6.13	Is the fertilization controlled through routine monitoring?	The execution of the fertilization in the nutrient solution and in the soil or in the substrate crops drainage is controlled, as applicable, through routine monitoring	2
PROGRAMS AND RECORDS OF FERTILIZER APPLICATION			
6.14	Have fertilization programs been developed by trained and competent personnel?	It must be shown that those responsible for carrying out fertilization programs have the educational background, training and experience to make estimates about the amount and type of fertilizer to apply.	2

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
6.15	Do you have records of fertilizer application?	Records of organic and inorganic fertilizer applications to the soil, substrates and foliar, must include the following information: a) Specific location of the application b) Date of application c) Commercial name; type and concentration of fertilizer applied d) The amount of product applied e) Equipment and method of applying fertilization f) Names of persons who executed the application of fertilizers.	2
SAFE HANDLING OF FERTILIZERS			
6.16	They have information available about the consumption and chemical composition of the fertilizers used?	There is an inventory with the names and amounts of fertilizers purchased, consumed and those available in the warehouse. This inventory is updated within the following month in regards to the movement of stocks (inputs or outputs from the warehouse). Additionally, the labels, technical specifications or other information provided by the suppliers of the products are available, so that the chemical contents of the main nutrients are known, including the heavy metals of all the fertilizers applied to the crops during the last twenty-four (24) months.	2
6.17	Is a risk assessment of the organic fertilizer used carried out?	An assessment of the potential risks from the use of organic fertilizers on the crops is made in order to prevent the spreading of pests and diseases, the propagation of weeds, and the phytotoxic effects of heavy metals. The risk assessment must be supported by the results of the physiochemical and microbiological analyzes of the organic fertilizers. The information contained on the labels or technical specifications of the commercial products, is considered valid for risk assessment.	2
6.18	Is the use of residual sludge as crop fertilizer prohibited?	Sludge from treatment plant wastewater is not used as a fertilizer on the crops.	1
6.19	Has the personnel that handles or applies the fertilizers been trained in regards to its safe use?	All personnel that handle or apply fertilizers are trained in regards to the safe use of the fertilizers. Training should include at least the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of fertilizers and their risks • Secure storage and handling • Content and how to use the labels and MSDSs • Correct use of personal protective equipment • Prevention and emergency attention (accidents and spills). Evidence of formation and the fact that workers apply the concepts and procedures taught in the training must be demonstrated. [Cross-reference: the formation program and training is addressed in requirement 3.1 and health and safety management in the workplace is addressed in requirement 4.19]	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
6.20	Are the solid chemical fertilizers stored safely?	Solid chemical fertilizers are stored under the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) In covered, dry, ventilated, organized and clean sites. b) In a place separate from pesticides, plant material, flowers or other crop products. Separation ensures that cross contamination between pesticides and fertilizers is avoided. Fertilizers which are applied with pesticides can be stored alongside pesticides. c) In their original packaging and with legible identification labels which have the trade name of the product. d) Placed on pallets to avoid direct contact with the floor. 	1
6.21	Are the liquid chemical fertilizers stored safely?	The liquid chemical fertilizers, including concentrated acids, are stored under the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) In ventilated, dry, organized and clean sites. b) Separated from pesticides to avoid cross contamination. Separated from plant material, flowers or other crop products. Fertilizers which are applied with pesticides can be stored alongside pesticides. c) Separated according to their chemical incompatibilities. d) In their original packaging and with legible identification labels which have the trade name of the product. e) Containers with pure liquid fertilizer must be kept in areas equipped with containment structures without infiltrations, with a capacity to contain spills of 10% above the volume normally stored in the larger container. f) Count on the necessary elements for handling spills. g) With informative and preventive signposting near or on doors that access storage sites. 	1
6.22	Are organic fertilizers are stored safely?	Organic fertilizers are stored in a designated area, ensuring that no natural bodies of water or any other natural system is contaminated. The area designated for storage of organic fertilizers must be located at a distance defined by the relevant environmental authority, in relation to natural bodies of water.	2

7 PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL AND SECURE HANDLING OF PESTICIDES



The implementation of an Integrated Pest Management scheme (IPM) is promoted, and seeks to use various control techniques that, harmoniously combined, help maintain the incidents of phytosanitary problems at levels that do not cause economic damage in cultivated products. Thus, intervention with chemical pesticides is a tool within the IPM that must be used rationally and appropriately, ideally using ones which are less toxic or favoring non-chemical alternatives for the management of phytosanitary risks faced by the crop.

The use of any type of input must be done responsibly, implementing the necessary controls and procedures in order to minimize risks to human health and the environment. The use of chemical pesticides which are recognized nationally and internationally for their damage to human health and the environment is not permitted; hence, all producers that are certified by Florverde® Sustainable Flowers must strictly adhere to the “list of prohibited products for the Florverde® certification.”

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)			
7.1	Do they fulfill the current phytosanitary regulations in force in the country?	They comply with the current phytosanitary regulations, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) having valid registration with the relevant authority for the development of the production activity and the exportation of flowers and ornamentals. b) ensuring that the plant material received from suppliers and that which is sent to the customers meets the phytosanitary requirements established by the relevant authority. c) complying with planes regarding the monitoring, prevention, mitigation and control against quarantined pests and diseases of economic importance, as defined by the pertinent phytosanitary authority. d) carrying out corrective actions for the observations reported in the inspection and monitoring reports from the relevant phytosanitary authority. 	1
7.2	Are there measures in place to control insects, rodents and vermin?	They have the necessary measures in place to control insects, rodents and vermin in the established places, depending on the production unit, including post-harvest units and packaging material amongst others.	2
7.3	Can the person responsible for the IPM and the choice of pesticides used demonstrate his/her competence?	The competence of the technician or consultant responsible for the IPM and for choosing the pesticides to use is demonstrated through academic titles in agronomy or related fields, or through training certificates and equivalent experience in areas related to the IPM.	1
7.4	Is there an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) in place that contemplates intervention thresholds?	An IPM plan is being documented and executed; it contains, as a minimum, the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A description of the pests, diseases, and weeds of economic importance that affect each crop. b) A description of each pest, including, amongst others: images for recognition, symptoms in affected plants, a description of the life cycle and favorable pest spreading conditions. c) A description of preventive pest management measures. d) A definition of intervention thresholds for each pest, when these can cause economic damage to crops. e) Strategies to prevent plague resistance to pesticides, including a suitable pesticide rotation schedule. 	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
7.5	Are prevention measures implemented in order to reduce the incidence of pests in the crop?	Preventive measures are implemented in order to reduce the incidence and intensity of pest attacks; in turn, reducing the need for intervention measures, especially chemical measures.	1
7.6	Is monitoring performed in order to determine the presence and level of pests in the crop?	Periodic monitoring is performed to determine the presence and level of pests in the crop. Information from the monitoring results is used to program control measures of the pests. Climatic variables related to the incidence of pests are used as input support when it comes to making decisions in regards to prevention and control.	1
7.7	Are intervention measures for the control of pests in the crop carried out?	Intervention measures with specific controls are implemented when pest levels can cause economic damage to the crop. Non-chemical intervention measures such as cultural, physical or biological controls are given priority. If intervention with chemical pesticides is needed, it is evident with technical criteria.	1
PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL			
7.8	Are prohibited pesticides used in the production unit?	None of the pesticides listed in the “Florverde® Sustainable Flowers prohibited pesticides list” are permitted to be used.	1
7.9	Are there any restrictions on use of phytosanitary products made by customers?	If any restrictions on the use of phytosanitary products (including post-harvest products) have been made by customers in the destination countries, there is documentation indicating given request and fulfillment.	2
7.10	Do pesticides used in the production unit have official approval from the relevant authority?	They only use chemical pesticides (including post-harvest products) and bioinputs that are currently and officially registered by the appropriate authority. There is an updated list available of the trade names and the active ingredient of the chemical pesticides or the biological component of the bioproducts that have been applied to the crops over the last twelve (12) months.	1
7.11	Are the chemical pesticides used recommended to protect crops according to the official approval?	The chemical pesticides used to protect ornamental crops must be officially approved for at least one ornamental species in the country of use.	2
7.12	Are chemical pesticides that are being used suitable for controlling the pests for which they are recommended?	Chemical pesticides used on the crops should be adequate for the pests that are being controlled.	1
7.13	Are the available pesticides rotated to prevent pest resistance and maintain their effectiveness?	To avoid selection pressure on the pest and their resistance to pesticides, rotation of pesticides for each plague and each crop is carried out. This does not apply to pesticides used in the post-harvest.	2
7.14	If chemical pesticides are used, do they try to use the least toxic?	The pesticides that are being used are chosen in regards to the least toxic. When using pesticides of toxicological categories Ia and Ib (according to the World Health Organization – WHO classification), they must demonstrate that they have implemented measures to reduce their use and have quantitative indicators that verify this.	2

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
PROGRAMS AND RECORDS OF PESTICIDE APPLICATION			
7.15	Are records of pesticide application available?	They have records of each pesticide application which include at least the following information: a) Name of the crop, variety, or treated material b) Specific location of the crop, variety, or treated material c) Date of treatment d) Name of biological target e) Complete trade name of the product, including its formulation f) Dose of commercial product g) Quantity of prepared and applied mixture, measured in units of weight or volume h) Equipment used to carry out the application i) Management and application method used j) Names of the workers responsible for carrying out the application k) Number of hours before reentry to the treated crop area m) The name and signature of the technician or advisor responsible for making the application recommendation.	1
7.16	Do they have records of the amount of pesticides consumed and are they recorded in the pesticide indicator?	They have a pesticide inventory that indicates entry, exit and availability of products in the warehouse (name and quantity) over the last twelve (12) months. As part of the inventory, bills or receipts of acquired pesticides are preserved. Monthly records of the pesticide consumption for each type of ornamental cultivated are made in the social and environmental floriculture indicator system. According to reports produced by the indicator system, an annual analysis of trends and causes of pesticide use, as well as actions aimed at reducing the use of chemical pesticides according to the control alternatives that exist, is carried out.	1
7.17	When using substances different to pesticides, bioinputs and fertilizers in the production unit, are records regarding the application of these substances available?	When using substances different from pesticides, bioinputs and fertilizers in the production unit, records that indicate the name of the substance used, the site, date and amount applied are available. When these substances do not require official registration issued by the appropriate authority, precautions are taken so that human health and the environment are not affected. [Cross reference: list of substances used in post-harvest requirement 12.4]	2
MINIMIZING RISK OF CHEMICAL PESTICIDES AND BIOINPUTS			
7.18	Are vulnerable workers not allowed to carry out activities involving the handling or application of pesticides or other dangerous substances?	It is guaranteed that no worker who is pregnant, breastfeeding or have other medical restrictions, performs tasks of dosing, weighing, preparing mixtures or applying pesticides or other hazardous substances. In the event that the country's legislation prohibits women from performing direct contact work with pesticides or other dangerous substances, the provisions of the legislation must be complied with.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
7.19	Has the personnel that handles or applies pesticides received training prior to starting the work?	<p>All personnel handling or applying pesticides have been trained by the appropriate government entities in the safe usage and handling of pesticides. In cases where they haven't received formal training, they can demonstrate that they are working on obtaining the training, and have an internal training program which is taught by competent personnel. The training program needs to have a minimum intensity of 8 hours and contains at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General information about the pesticides used in the production unit (concentrations, formulations, toxicological categories, hazards and precautions). • Different forms of intoxication. • Signs of poisoning and first aid measures. • Label use and content, as well as safety data sheets of pesticides. • Procedures to follow in case of an emergency (poisonings or spills). • Measures to prevent environmental contamination: management of liquid and solid pesticide residues • Correct cleaning and use of personal protection gear. • Personal hygiene after handling or applying pesticides. • Basic biology of pests that attack crops and their control. • Instructions for proper and safe management of pesticide application equipment and its maintenance. • Preparation sequences of pesticide mixtures. <p>There is evidence that workers apply concepts and procedures taught in the training. [Cross-reference: with requirement 3.1 related to training, and requirement 4.19 related to the management of health and safety in the workplace]</p>	1
7.20	¿Are medical controls carried out on personnel who handle or apply pesticides?	<p>Personnel who handle or apply pesticides are subject to medical examinations and laboratory tests before and after the defined period of rotation. Examinations and laboratory tests are due to the established risk, and are in accordance with the pesticide to which the worker is exposed and the availability of given tests in the country.</p> <p>He has certificates of medical fitness in order to work with pesticides. These results are known by the worker. [Cross reference: with requirement 4.11 related to the management of health and safety at work]</p>	2
7.21	Have the personnel who handle or apply the pesticide been equipped with PPE?	<p>Everyone involved in the use and handling of pesticides is equipped with PPE in good condition and they make proper use of it. This is in accordance with the recommendations described in the MSDSs and on the labels of the pesticides that are being used. Monitoring of the PPE is carried out and it is changed promptly in case of deterioration. [Cross-reference: with requirement 4.17 related to management of health and safety at work]</p>	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
7.22	Are minimum safety strips respected during the application of pesticides?	<p>A strip of at least ten meters between pesticide application areas and natural bodies of water and areas where people are present is respected.</p> <p>When the distance between the areas of application and the places where people are present is less than ten meters, physical or biological barriers, or procedures that restrict the movement of people to avoid exposure to the excesses of the product are put in place.</p> <p>This requirement does not apply to pesticide immersion application.</p>	2
7.23	Are reentry intervals respected in the pesticide-treated areas?	<p>Access to areas treated with pesticides is prevented with the help of clear and legible signs. Warning signs are made of resistant material, bear the international danger symbol, and include the writing: "Danger, pesticide treated area. If you need to enter, use protective equipment."</p> <p>Reentry intervals noted on the pesticide labels are met. For any pesticide, the minimum reentry interval in order to comply with the current standard is four (4) hours. When mixtures of products with different reentry intervals are applied, the strictest reentry interval must be complied with. The reentry intervals begin to take effect from the time when the application ends. While reentry intervals are in process, the entry of people to the treated areas without the use of personal protection equipment is prohibited.</p>	1
7.24	Do they count on procedures and resources for emergency care due to pesticides?	<p>Procedures in regards to first-aid and handling spills are clear, visible and accessible to staff; they are located no more than ten (10) meters from the warehouse and fixed mixture preparation stations. The procedures include emergency phone numbers. Utensils and a water source are available for emergencies, and are located no more than ten (10) meters from the warehouse and fixed mixture preparation stations. A first-aid kit is accessible in case of an emergency.</p> <p>[Cross-reference: with the requirement 4.14 related to the management of health and safety at work]</p>	2
FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROPER HANDLING PRACTICES OF PESTICIDES			
7.25	Does the pesticide warehouse meet adequate physical conditions?	<p>The pesticide warehouse is built and equipped to ensure safe product handling and to minimize contamination and potential risks to personnel. The following conditions are guaranteed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) They are physically separated by a wall or barrier (which does not necessarily have to be rigid) from the rest of the general warehouse where materials or other inputs are stored. b) The floors and walls are built with non-absorbent materials, they are easy to clean, and they have a solid and fireproof structure to ensure the protection of pesticides against temperature extremes and humidity; complying with storage recommendations described on the labels. 	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
7.25	Does the pesticide warehouse meet adequate physical conditions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) It is equipped with a door that can be locked with a key. d) It has sufficient and permanent natural or artificial ventilation to avoid concentration of odors and vapors e) It has adequate natural or artificial lighting, which allows product labels to be read. f) It has a confinement structure capable of holding spills 10% over the entire liquid volume corresponding to the largest container in the warehouse. There must not be any siphons in the floor. g) It has elements available for handling spillages h) It has informative and preventive signs near or in gateways. 	1
7.26	Are the pesticides stored safely?	<p>Pesticide storage is carried out in conformity with the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The pesticide warehouse is locked with a key and access is restricted only to personnel trained in the safe handling of pesticides. b) The warehouse is exclusively for storing pesticides. However, when applying fertilizers mixed with pesticides, these may be stored in the same warehouse as the pesticides, but on separate shelves. c) The pesticides are packed in their factory containers or packaging and are identified with their original labels. Containers and packaging must be in good condition, without holes and well-sealed, in order to prevent leakage. However, if there are pesticides that have been repackaged ready for their application, they must include the identification label produced by the company. c) Pesticides are located on shelves that are firm, fixed to the floor, and made of material that is rigid, fire-resistant, non-absorbent, and easily cleanable. The shelves are kept dry and clean, free of dust and pesticide residues. d) On the shelves, pesticides are separated and classified according to their toxicological categories. e) If they are kept on the same shelf, granulated or powdered pesticides are always located above the liquid pesticides, in order to prevent damage in the case of spills. f) Inventory turnover is guaranteed in order to prevent expired products. g) If expired products are found, they are identified and separated from the products being used. h) Pesticides used for purposes other than application on crops, or products registered and certified by Florverde®, can be kept in the same warehouse, but must be clearly identified and stored on different shelves. i) Other requirements established by the current and applicable legislation regarding pesticide storage must be taken into account. 	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
7.27	When measuring and mixing pesticides for their use, is this done with reliable equipment and utensils?	<p>When measuring and mixing pesticides there must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A weighing table that is fixed to the floor and made from non-absorbent, durable, and strong material. Reliable measuring equipment and utensils. Measuring equipment that has been checked and adjusted internally at least once a year, with records available to prove this. Mixture preparation tanks clearly marked. Mixture preparation tanks and herbicide application equipment are clearly identified in order to prevent cross-contamination which can occur with other types of pesticides. <p>[Cross reference: with requirement 10.5 related to the verification and adjustment of measuring instruments]</p>	1
7.28	Is the repackaging of pesticides done under the proper conditions?	<p>In the case of repackaging pesticides, it is performed under the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They use new containers, or pesticide containers and packaging which are specifically made for the repackaging of the products. Repackaged pesticides are identified by a mark or label, which includes at least the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Product Name Quantity measured in grams or cubic centimeters Toxicological Category Date of repackaging Destination (block, section, or greenhouse) Plastic bags different from the product's original bag are not used to repackage pesticides. Neither Food and beverage containers, nor other containers or packages are used. 	2
7.29	Is the internal transportation of pesticides from storage sites to mixture preparation areas carried out safely?	The transportation of pesticides from storage sites to mixture preparation areas is carried out in containers which are sealed and marked and guarantee the containment of possible spillages.	1
7.30	Do the fixed mixture preparation stations meet adequate conditions?	<p>Fixed mixture preparation stations or areas are equipped to ensure safe product handling and minimize potential risks to personnel and/or contamination. They comply with the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They are built from solid structural material They are equipped with a door that can be locked They have sign posting on or near the doors They have adequate and permanent ventilation, preferably natural They have sufficient natural or artificial lighting They do not have siphons in the floor and are equipped with containment structures that don't have infiltrations around the mixing tanks. The containment structures have the capacity to hold 10% more than largest volume normally prepared. <p>Access to fixed mixture preparation stations is limited only to authorized personnel who are trained in the safe handling of pesticides.</p>	2

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
7.31	Is the preparation of mixtures and pesticide application performed in accordance with the instructions on the labels?	The process for the preparation of mixtures and methods of pesticide application are carried out in accordance with the instructions described on the product labels. Any change to the usage instructions of pesticides has been justified in writing by the manufacturers.	2
7.32	Is the capacity and changing of spray nozzles carried out?	The capacity and changing of pesticide spray nozzles is evident and made with a frequency that is consistent with their lifespan and by someone who is competent to do so.	2
7.33	Is pesticide application equipment stored safely?	The pesticide application equipment is stored safely, avoiding soil and water contamination through runoff of excess pesticide, as well as the contamination of materials, inputs, harvested products, among others, that may come into contact with the equipment.	2
7.34	After handling or applying pesticides, is the PPE washed at a suitable site?	All PPE is washed with water within the production unit after being used for handling pesticides. Sites for washing, drying and storing PPE and work clothes must meet the following conditions: a) They have floors and walls built with compact and durable material which is easy to clean. b) They have sufficient laundry facilities which are comfortable and ensure the cleanliness of all PPE. c) They have enough clotheslines and clothes dryers for the clean PPE. d) They have sufficient ventilation for drying clothes and PPE. The PPE is kept apart from places where pesticides are stored, mixed or applied, and this also goes for the equipment and tools used for pesticide application. It is ensured that no PPE is taken from the production unit by staff.	1
7.35	Does the personnel that handle or apply the pesticides or other hazardous substances bath in a suitable place at the end of the job?	Everyone who handles or applies pesticides or other hazardous substances bathes and changes clothes before leaving the production unit or leaving work at the end of the day. Sites for bathing and changing clothes meet the following conditions: a) They have floors and walls made from material that is compact, durable, waterproof and easy to clean. b) They have enough showers which are equipped with hot clean water (hot water is for regions where the temperature is below 18 ° C). c) They have comfortable double closets and lockers for each worker, so they can keep their personal clothes apart from their work clothes that they use when handling pesticides. d) Staff are provided with soap, towels and sandals.	1

8 WASTE MANAGEMENT



Proper waste management can prevent contamination and keep production units clean and tidy. Waste management must include the reduction of waste generation, separation according to the characteristics of the waste material, safe storage, reuse and recycling, as well as treatment and disposal in accordance with the current and applicable legal regulations.

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
PREVENTION AND MINIMIZATION			
8.1	Have they identified the waste produced and where it is coming from?	The waste produced and its sources of generation in each of the production stages of the process are identified. Solids, liquids, and gases, as well as the hazardous materials generated in the production unit, are all considered to be waste.	2
8.2	Is there a comprehensive management plan for the management and reduction of waste generation?	There is a documented and implemented integral management plan that includes measures of prevention, reduction, utilization, treatment and disposal of waste, according to its characteristics and the possibilities available. Where relevant, the plan takes into account the air, soil, and water pollution that the waste can generate, along with the sources of generation.	2
8.3	Have the staff received waste management training?	All staff are trained in waste management. The training should focus on, among other things, the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types and origin of the waste • Separation at source • Exploitation (recycling and reuse) • Storage, processing, and disposal The fact that workers apply concepts and procedures taught in the training must be demonstrated. [Cross-reference: with the requirement 3.1 related to the training program, and requirement 4.21 related to health and safety in the workplace]	2
8.4	Is the triple washing process of containers and packaging of pesticides carried out?	All empty containers and packaging of pesticides are washed three times and rendered useless (perforated or cut). The water from the triple washing of pesticide containers and packaging is sent to the mixing preparation tanks for reuse by applying them on the crops.	1
8.5	Are combustibles stored safely?	Sites where combustibles are stored, comply with at least the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) In the case of liquid combustibles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have confinement structures without infiltration. They must be capable of holding spills 10% over the entire liquid volume corresponding to the largest container in the warehouse. 	2

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
8.5	Are combustibles stored safely?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are covered and have ventilation which is preferably natural. The containers, bottles or tanks where combustibles are stored are labeled. They have elements to address spills if they occur. Paints, oils, solvents and oils can be stored in the same place as the combustibles, but they must be in sealed and marked containers. <p>b) In the case of solid combustibles (coal):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They must be covered or placed in a covered site <p>c) In the case of compressed gas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It must be in ventilated and marked sites. The site must be built with non-combustible material 	2
8.6	Are there temporary storage sites for usable and unusable waste?	<p>For usable waste: there is a collection center which is covered and dry and has defined and signposted areas where the different waste material is classified, separated, and sorted.</p> <p>For unusable waste: there is a temporary storage area which is enclosed, covered, ventilated and signposted.</p>	2
8.7	Is there a temporary storage area for hazardous waste?	<p>The area where hazardous waste is temporarily stored prior to its removal from the production unit complies with at least the following conditions:</p> <p>a) It is covered, dry, ventilated and signposted, and has restricted access. It is equipped with a door that can be locked.</p> <p>b) It has an appropriate storage capacity to accommodate the amount of waste generated in a given period of time. It allows for the separation and classification of the hazardous waste.</p> <p>c) In the case of storing liquid waste, there is a containment structure as well as elements for emergency spillage.</p> <p>d) Other established requirements in the legislation in regards to the storage of hazardous waste that are applicable and current are taken into account.</p>	1
REUSE AND RECYCLING			
8.8	Is there management of the vegetable waste that is generated in the production process?	<p>All vegetable waste that is generated in the production process is managed appropriately. The alternatives chosen for handling this waste must not generate negative impacts on human health or the environment. Therefore, the alternative implemented must count on the identification, evaluation and minimization of the vegetable waste.</p> <p>The vegetable waste is not allowed to be disposed of in any of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As fresh food for livestock, inside or outside the farm Leaving the production unit without knowing its final destination Sent to municipal landfills Used for open burning 	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
8.9	Is the exploitable solid waste reused and recycled?	Measures for the reuse and recycling of the solid waste generated in the production process are implemented, according to their exploitation possibilities. The exploitable waste removed from the production units is delivered to recycling entities that ensure the responsible management of the material, as well as conditions of industrial safety and hygiene for staff at the reprocessing site, and a destination of the final product that does not involve risks to people or the environment.	2
8.10	Are measures in place for handling liquid waste generated by the use of pesticides?	In case of generating surplus in the different stages of pesticide use, such as the dosing, mixing, application (including post-harvest) and the washing of the application equipment and PPE, it is collected and reused on the crop, or treated before being discharged into natural bodies of water or soil. If the option is treatment, the treated effluent must meet the maximum permissible limits for pesticides, as established by the current and applicable laws.	2
TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL			
8.11	Do they have wastewater discharge permits from the competent authority?	In case of generating wastewater discharges, they have a discharge permit or are in the middle of applying for one before the competent environmental authority, in accordance with the current legislation.	1
8.12	Do they discharge untreated waste water?	Industrial and domestic wastewater generated in the production units are not discharged into natural bodies of water or soil without demonstrating that it complies with the parameters and their maximum permissible values, as established under the current and applicable laws. Untreated wastewater is not mixed with uncontaminated water in order to be diluted and discharged.	1
8.13	Is industrial wastewater that is generated in the production unit treated?	In case of generating industrial wastewater in the production unit (surplus of preservatives or dyes, among other things), the treatment carried out is according to the origin and content of pollutants. The treated wastewater is monitored by a laboratory analysis in order to verify compliance with the parameters and their maximum permissible values, as established in the current and applicable legislation. The frequency of analysis should be annual or in accordance with the requirements of the relevant environmental authority; the stricter requirement prevails. The treated wastewater can be reused in the production process when it complies with the quality criteria specified. If there is a regulation regarding the use of treated wastewater, it must be complied with.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
8.14	Is domestic wastewater that is generated in the production unit treated?	<p>Treatment of domestic wastewater generated in the production unit is proven. The treated wastewater is monitored by a laboratory analysis in order to verify compliance with the parameters and their maximum permissible values, as established in the current and applicable legislation. The frequency of analysis should be annual or in accordance with the requirements of the relevant environmental authority; the stricter requirement prevails.</p> <p>The treated domestic wastewater can be reused in the production process when it complies with the quality criteria specified. If there is a regulation regarding the use of treated wastewater, it must be complied with.</p>	1
8.15	Is the burial, burning or disposal of solid waste in unauthorized places prohibited?	The burial or burning of solid waste as an alternative disposal method is not allowed. Neither is it permitted to dispose of solid waste in the aquatic ecosystems, open spaces, roadside, or public areas.	1
8.16	Is proper disposal of unusable solid waste carried out?	It can be proven that the unusable waste is handed over to the entities that provide the local public rubbish service. If there isn't any entity providing local public rubbish collection, the waste must be disposed of in authorized sites, either directly or through an authorized third party.	1
8.17	Is proper disposal of hazardous waste carried out?	<p>It can be proven that the hazardous waste generated in the production unit is delivered to post-consumer programs or specialized receivers that are authorized by the relevant environmental authority.</p> <p>Delivery referrals and minutes are provided for the use, treatment and disposal of the hazardous waste to post-consumer programs or authorized receivers. The post-consumer programs or authorized receivers have the necessary licenses and permission to manage hazardous waste, granted by the relevant environmental authority.</p> <p>Other requirements established in the current and applicable legislation regarding the handling and disposal of hazardous waste are complied.</p>	1

9 PROPERTY, LAND AND BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT



Here we ensure that the floriculture business is conducted in permitted areas, while promoting the conservation of biodiversity, recovery of land that is impacted by the activity, and an improvement to the working environment within the companies by means of road management, green areas, and barriers of native plant species. This will be addressed through issues related to farm, land, and biodiversity management so that the productive units can reduce their operational risks and implement their projects more effectively, while improving their image and their ability to access key resources for their businesses in a sustainable manner. It is essential to recognize the importance of biodiversity as a fundamental element in understanding the complexity of the regional landscape and its interactions.

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACTIVITY IN PERMITTED AREAS			
9.1	Is the production unit located in an area where agriculture is permitted?	The production unit is located in an area that is permitted by the appropriate authority.	1
9.2	Does the production unit have the land tenure and usage rights?	The legitimacy of the land tenure and usage rights is demonstrated through official documentation. When applying, in the case that it is intended to develop a new productive project in an area considered by local norms as a collective territory, a prior consultation process with the communities settled in accordance with what is specified in local laws in the manner must be advanced in the manner that the life forms of national ethnic groups in their territorial, environmental, cultural, social, economic and health, and other aspects that affect their ethnic integrity are not directly affected.	1
9.3	Is the production unit located on a site that does not have a high conservation value (HCV)?	The areas of high conservation value have been identified according to the HCV Network, in the production unit and in its area of influence. These high conservation value criteria are based on those defined by the High Conservation Value (HCV) Resource Network (see: http://hcvnetwork.org/) where practical help is given for using HCVs in each region, including general orientation documents (Tools) and web pages dedicated to each country. The production unit must not affect these areas. The producer avoids, remedies or mitigates negative impacts, which may arise from its activities, on protected areas and in areas with high conservation value within or outside the production sites, which affect the livelihood of the local and/indigenous population	3
MANAGEMENT OF THE PRODUCTION			
9.4	Is there a registration system for each cultivated area?	There are records that identify the agricultural activities carried out in each of the cultivated areas.	1

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
9.5	Is there a visual identification system for all the areas?	The cultivated areas are physically identified by a code, number, or color (among others things). This identification must match the records kept of agricultural activities. There is a map of the production unit on which the cultivated areas, water sources, warehouses, post-harvest and the administrative areas, among other things, are identified.	2
9.6	Are there records of the quantities and planting dates?	Records are available of the quantity and planting dates in production.	2
9.7	Are risk assessments for all production units registered for certification for the first time carried out?	All production units registered for certification for the first time have risk assessments carried out, contemplating the possible physical, chemical, and biological hazards, and taking into account at least: a) Soil type b) Actual or potential erosion levels c) Depth of the water table according to the topography of the land	1
9.7	Are risk assessments for all production units registered for certification for the first time carried out?	d) Availability of water sources e) Previous use of the land f) Soil pests g) Current use of adjacent areas h) Environmental impact on adjacent areas This requirement does not apply to extensions of already established farm areas.	1
9.8	Is there a management plan that establishes the ways to minimize the risks identified in all production units registered for certification for the first time?	There is a management plan with corrective measures to prevent, control or mitigate each risk identified in all production units registered for certification for the first time. There is evidence of its implementation and effectiveness.	2
9.9	If the production unit employs the use of animals for certain tasks, is their welfare guaranteed?	The welfare of animals used in the tasks of the production unit is guaranteed.	3
LANDSCAPE, BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION			
9.10	Is there an environmental, landscape and biodiversity management plan in practice?	There is a documented and implemented program, which can be individual or linked to a regional project or program, in order to improve the landscape and biodiversity of the production unit. It must contain at least the following: a) Diagnosis that understands the definition of landscape units and their location on a scaled plan, the inventory of flora and fauna species, the identification of nearby protected areas, and the identification of areas of high ecological value. b) Objectives, goals and actions to be taken to conserve, protect or improve the landscape, habitat and diversity. c) A schedule evidencing compliance with the implementation of the program. d) Actions taken to improve the landscape and biodiversity, including the implementation of landscape management tools. In scheduled actions to improve the landscape units, priority should be given to native flora and fauna species.	2

NO.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
9.11	Are the edges of natural water sources or conservation areas reforested with native species?	The edges and banks of natural water sources or conservation areas, as defined by the pertinent authority, are reforested with native species.	2
9.12	Is deforestation prevented in the production unit?	Logging of natural forests or deforestation of river banks or conservation areas is not permitted. In the case of any logging, permission must be granted from the appropriate authority.	2
9.13	Is a strip between natural bodies of water and the production unit maintained?	On the premises of the production unit, they must comply with the ring of protection around natural bodies of water, as determined by the appropriate authorities.	2
9.14	Is the extraction of endangered species of flora and fauna prohibited?	The threat category of the flora and fauna, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, must be identified in the inventory of flora and fauna carried out in the Landscape Program. In the production unit, it is not permitted to extract endangered species of flora and fauna or species listed in Appendices I and II of CITES; nor is it permitted to hunt wild animals or keep them in captivity. [Cross reference: Requirement 9.10 from the Landscape and Biodiversity Program]	1
9.15	Are measures for wildlife conservation adopted?	Measures are taken to control the entry of harmful fauna to the production unit, which may affect wildlife in the bodies of water, reservoirs, canals, wetlands and wildlife conservation areas. Appropriate spaces and conditions are encouraged in order to maintain, protect or restore wildlife.	2
9.16	Do they support local initiatives to help improve the environment in their community?	They are involved in some type of local initiative for the protection of the environment or biodiversity, or the strengthening of environmental awareness in the community.	3
9.17	Do they have a plan to convert unproductive areas into areas that promote the conservation of biodiversity?	If the production unit has unproductive areas, they have a plan to turn them into areas that encourage the conservation of flora and fauna.	3
9.18	Have they identified ecosystem services associated with production activity?	They can prove that they have made an inventory of priority ecosystem services that contribute to the development of production activity.	3

10 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CARBON FOOTPRINT



Agricultural activity is no stranger to the consumption of energy and the generation of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and is even considered to be one of the main industries contributing to emissions that directly affect climate change; while at the same time, it could be one of the industries most vulnerable to its effects. Through Florverde® Sustainable Flowers, use of renewable energy sources and conventional energy optimization is promoted via technological upgrading and the implementation of good operational and maintenance practices. The developments of programs that reduce or offset GHG emissions are also encouraged.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
ENERGY EFFICIENCY			
10.1	Is energy consumption recorded and analyzed?	The sources and amounts of energy used in the production process are identified and recorded. In the “Floriculture’s Social and Environmental Indicators System” monthly records of power consumption are recorded. According to the reports produced by the indicators system, an annual analysis of trends and causes of energy consumption are performed, as well as actions aimed at optimizing energy consumption. This information may be part of the energy efficiency program	1
10.2	Is there an energy efficiency program operating?	There is an ongoing program to improve energy efficiency which is documented, and contains at least the following information: a) A diagnosis in which the processes and operations that can optimize energy consumption are identified. b) Planned and implemented actions that improve energy efficiency.	2
10.3	Have they implemented measures to reduce the use of energy from non-renewable sources?	It is shown that steps have been taken to reduce the use of non-renewable energy and replace it with renewable energy.	3
10.4	Is preventive maintenance performed on equipment and machines?	An inventory and technical specifications of the equipment and machines operating in the production unit is available. A schedule of preventive maintenance performed on equipment and machines is established and there are records of this. Priority should be given to the maintenance of equipment and machines that have a high security risk assessment or may have an impact on energy consumption and the environment. In addition to the demonstrated preventive maintenance, for the following equipment the subsequent requirements are taken into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For pesticide and fertigation equipment, there are maintenance records and evidence that there are no leaks. 	2

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
10.4	Is preventive maintenance performed on equipment and machines?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For refrigeration equipment, there are records of maintenance and refrigerant gas refills by equipmen, and it is clear that they are in good working order. Moreover, persons responsible for the maintenance of the equipment are trained in good management practices for substances that deplete the ozone layer. • For boilers, there are records regarding maintenance and operation hours, as well as the consumption and quality of the fuel used. If legal regulations for the operation of boilers exist, they must be complied with. 	2
10.5	Is the measuring equipment checked and adjusted periodically?	The measuring equipment is shown to be in good working order. There are records that show the verification and adjustment made to the measurement equipment during the last year by specialized companies or by internal competent personnel. If small manual measuring instruments are used, their measurement capacity is checked and adjusted annually, comparing them with standard measurement patterns. [Cross reference: this requirement is related to requirement 10.4, preventive maintenance of equipment and machines].	2
10.6	Is the measurement equipment calibrated by accredited entities?	There are records that show the calibration of the measurement equipment by officially accredited entities, according to the results of the annual verifications and where applicable. [Cross reference: this requirement is related to requirement 10.5, verification of measuring equipment].	3
GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS			
10.7	Are GHG emissions that are generated in the production unit measured?	The sources of direct and indirect GHG emissions generated in the production unit are identify and measured. In the "Floriculture's Social and Environmental Indicators System", the monthly consumption of direct and indirect sources that contribute to the generation of GHG emissions is recorded. According to the reports produced by the indicators system, an annual analysis of trends and causes of GHG generation is performed.	2
10.8	Do they have a program aimed at reducing or offsetting GHG emissions?	In accordance with the generation of greenhouse gases, there is a program in place to reduce or offset the emissions through local or regional initiatives aimed at capturing carbon dioxide.	3
10.9	Is there a plan to substitute cooling equipment that operates with hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) refrigerants for other equipment that operates with natural refrigerants?	There is a well-documented plan underway to substitute cooling equipment that operates with HCFC refrigerants for other equipment which operates with natural refrigerants. At least, the following information must form part of this plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A list and number of pieces operating with HCFC (such as the R-22, amongst others). b) Natural refrigerants to be used in the equipment to be installed; these refrigerants may include ammonia, carbon dioxide or hydrocarbons (propane, isobutane and propylene). c) A time table stating annual compliance in the replacement of equipment using natural refrigerants, including responsible parties and necessary resources. When installing equipment that operates with hydrocarbons (propane) or ammonia, either the safety instructions defined by the competent local authorities must be observed, or follow the local or international technical standards to assemble and operate machines that use these types of gases.	3

11

ORIGEN OF PLANT MATERIAL



The appropriate selection and having quality specifications of the plant material acquired helps have a good crop, as well as reduce the amount of fertilizers and pesticides applied, and obtain an appropriate final product. Knowing the origin and quality of the plant material prevents fraud and guarantees respect for the intellectual property of plant breeders, as well as ensuring compliance with phytosanitary regulations and counting on available information about their suppliers and customers in terms of quality specifications.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
11.1	Does the supplier of the plant propagation material know and comply with the quality specifications required by the production unit?	There is written correspondence with the supplier that indicates agreements concerning quality specifications of the plant material, if they exist. It is shown that the supplier meets the required quality specifications.	2
11.2	Does the production unit verify the quality of plant material received?	It is verified that the varieties received from the supplier correspond to those required within the quality specifications. They have records to show that propagated varieties correspond to cultivated varieties and there are documents received from the supplier which guarantee the quality of the plant propagation material delivered.	2
11.3	Is the intellectual property of plant breeders or the patent corresponding to the cultivated varieties respected?	There is a list of varieties currently in production which are legally protected. They have the necessary documents to show that the cultivated varieties come from a legal source, or they have written authorization of the breeder to propagate or auto-propagate the protected variety.	1
11.4	Is the producer aware of the varieties degree of susceptibility to pest and diseases?	There is written evidence of the varieties degree of susceptibility to pest and diseases	3
11.5	Is there a document that guarantees the phytosanitary quality of the plant propagation material acquired?	Records or certifications from the supplier are available that evidence the phytosanitary quality of the plant propagation material acquired. [Cross-reference: The requirements regarding the phytosanitary regulations can be found in requirement 7.1]	2
11.6	Is there information from the supplier regarding the chemical treatment carried out on the plant propagation material acquired?	In case the production unit requires, the supplier of the plant propagation material can facilitate the information regarding the phytosanitary products used on the plant material delivered.	3

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
11.7	Is there a phytosanitary quality control system for the propagation area?	If there is a propagation area of plant material, it counts on a phytosanitary quality control system, including monitoring methods of visible signs of pests and diseases, and records of their findings and corresponding control strategies applied. [Cross reference: requirements 7.4, 7.5 and 7.6 of phytosanitary control and safe handling of pesticides]	2
11.8	Does the production unit which obtains, acquires or cultivates genetically modified plant material comply with national legislation?	Should the production unit obtain, acquire or cultivate genetically modified plant material, it must comply with current and applicable national laws. It has documented information regarding the specific genetic modification carried out on the plant material. This does not apply if they do not use genetically modified plant material.	1
11.9	Does the production unit that cultivates genetically modified plant material have information available?	If plant material derived from genetic modification is grown, there are records of its use, planting and production available. This does not apply if they do not use genetically modified plant material.	2
11.10	Does the production unit inform its direct customers about the status of genetically modified plant material?	There is written communication informing the direct customers about the production status of the genetically modified plant material. This does not apply if they do not use genetically modified plant material.	1
11.11	Is there a procedure to reduce the risk of mixing between the genetically modified plant material and other conventional material?	The production unit has a written procedure regarding the handling and storage of genetically modified plant material in order to minimize the risk of mixing with conventional material; hence, maintaining product integrity. This does not apply if they do not use genetically modified plant material.	2
11.12	Are harvests of genetically modified plant material stored separately from other harvests?	It is shown that the harvests of genetically modified plant material are stored separately from conventional plant material. The storage site of genetically modified plant material which has been harvested is identified and ensures product integrity. This does not apply if they do not use genetically modified plant material.	1

12

POSTHARVEST PRODUCT CARE



In order for harvested ornamental products to retain their qualities and maintain conditions that will allow them to obtain the expected vase length, as well as meet the requirements requested by customers, Florverde® Sustainable Flowers promotes the implementation of best practices and procedures relating to hygiene, hydration, treatment, quality control of the water used, and the product's cold chain during harvest and postharvest. These best practices should be respectful of the environment and people involved in the processes. They also promote the definition of product quality standards to improve market requirements.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
POSTHARVEST PROCEDURES			
12.1	Is there a procedure in place to ensure that the harvesting process is carried out under hygienic conditions?	A documented procedure is in place and is met in order to ensure hygienic conditions during the harvesting process of the product. The procedure includes at least the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleanliness of transportation boxes or containers which are free of garbage, debris, dirt, insects, etc. • Order and cleanliness in places used for storing boxes, buckets, tarps and other transportation containers. • Clean cutting tools. 	2
12.2	Are classification, packaging and cold room areas kept in good order, with neatness and cleanliness?	It is shown that there is no accumulation of plant debris, liquids or other materials. Minimal residues which are generated during the normal work day are accepted.	2
12.3	Is there a procedure in place that guarantees the cooling conditions during storage and transportation of the product, right through to the delivery point?	A documented procedure is in place and is met in order to ensure the cooling conditions during storage and transportation of the product right through to the delivery point, which may be the airport or the immediate customer. The procedure includes at least the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature range at which the cold rooms must remain. • Temperature range at which the means of transportation to the delivery point must remain. 	2
POST-HARVEST TREATMENTS			
12.4	Are chemical products used in the postharvest?	When using chemicals in the postharvest, there is an updated list of trade names of the products used and it meets the specifications on the safety data sheets. They have records with the name and quantity of the substance used.	1
12.5	Is there a procedure in place to prevent the dehydration of the harvested product from the time of cutting until the cooling process?	A documented procedure is in place and is met in order to prevent dehydration of the harvested product right through to the cooling process, as applicable. The procedure includes at least the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined times between the harvest and the arrival of the material to the postharvest. 	2

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
12.5	Is there a procedure in place to prevent the dehydration of the harvested product from the time of cutting until the cooling process?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of hydration solutions according to the instructions on the labels, or based on technical criteria. Minimum hydration times. 	2
12.6	Do they consider different alternatives to the use of chemicals in order to preserve the flowers?	<p>They carry out and evaluate different alternatives to the use of silver thiosulfate and postharvest pesticides, and these substances are only used when no other alternatives are technically accepted.</p> <p>When using pesticides in the postharvest, they must comply with the applicable requirements from the chapter regarding phytosanitary control and safe handling of pesticides.</p> <p>[Cross-reference: with requirements 7.7 to 7.9, 7.13 to 7.23, 7.27, 7.33 and 7.34 of phytosanitary control and safe handling of pesticides]</p>	2
12.7	When using chemicals, are they clear about their final disposal?	<p>When final disposal of excess solutions is required, this is done according to the manufacturer's recommendations or according to the current applicable law.</p> <p>[Cross-reference: with requirements 8.10 and 8.13 regarding waste management]</p>	1
PRODUCT QUALITY			
12.8	Are there standards established regarding product quality?	<p>There are defined standards regarding the quality of harvested and shipped products, and these are verified. These standards include as a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length, weight, size, opening or maturity, among other things. Products free of pests and diseases. 	1
12.9	Are there product quality requirements set by the client and is their compliance verified?	<p>There are quality specifications supplied by customers and their compliance is verified. If there are no customer requirements, the production unit has its own specifications.</p>	1
12.10	Do they have implemented procedures regarding travel simulations and vase life in order to assess the longevity of the flowers dispatched to the clients?	<p>A documented procedure regarding simulated transportation and flower vase life is in place and is met. There are records of the results of the evaluations undertaken, and the corrective measures that have been taken as a consequence of the results are also shown.</p>	2
12.11	Do they have a procedure to handle non-compliant products?	<p>A documented procedure is in place and is met in order to effectively manage non-compliant products. The procedure includes at least the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the types of situations under which a product can be declared as non-compliant. Specify the persons responsible for making decisions and the mechanism for notifying customers. <p>The procedure is operational at any time and is tested at least once a year to ensure its effectiveness, and this test is documented.</p>	1

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
QUALITY OF WATER USED IN POST-HARVEST			
12.12	Do they use untreated waste water in the postharvest?	Waste water that has not been treated should not be used in postharvest.	1
12.13	Is there a risk assessment of the postharvest water carried out?	<p>There is a risk assessment of the water used in postharvest that considers at least the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the sources of the water used • The conditions regarding the storage and supply of the water • The frequency of testing according to the source of the water used • Physiochemical parameters to monitor quality <p>The risk assessment is reviewed annually and is updated when changes occur to the water supply system or when events that may generate pollution in the system arise.</p> <p>When using potable water, risk assessment does not apply.</p>	2
12.14	Have they taken steps in case of finding adverse outcomes in the risk assessment of the water used in postharvest?	They have evidence that demonstrates decisions taken to improve water conditions employed in the postharvest.	2
12.15	Is the laboratory that performs the analysis of the water used in the postharvest accredited?	The laboratory where the analysis of the quality of the water used in the postharvest is made must be accredited with the ISO 17025 standard or an equivalent standard, or be accredited by the pertinent national authority.	2

13 TRACKING AND RECORDS



It is important to trace the origin of the product from the place where it was produced to the immediate customer, as well as identify the conditions under which it was produced; this allows them to find the causes of the problems regarding quality and thus, promptly inform their customers, resolving their concerns and requirements. This also allows them to determine the amount of products that have been certified, non-certified, purchased, owned, dispatched and rejected, by product type and supplier, as well as to whom it has been dispatched. It is necessary for the immediate client to access specific and accurate information about the products that they are buying.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE CRITERIA	Level
13.1	Do they have a system implemented to identify and quantify the Florverde® certified product?	There is a registration system for the input and output of the product, grouped into periods of up to three calendar months, which allows to them to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The amount of product owned, produced, certified and non-certified. b) The amount of certified and non-certified products acquired from third parties. c) The amount of products owned, purchased and discarded. d) The amount of products delivered. 	1
13.2	Are there procedures in place and records to identify products that have been purchased from flower and foliage suppliers?	There are established procedures that identify and quantify products that are Florverde® certified and non-certified and which have been purchased from suppliers, including at least the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) List of flower and foliage suppliers that are Florverde® certified and non-certified. b) Type of products purchased from each supplier. c) Quantities of products purchased. d) Florverde certification status. e) Copy of the current Florverde certificate of each provider, if applicable. f) Traceability data or codes related to purchased products. g) Purchase invoices. 	1
13.3	Is there a tracking system that helps track the product from where it was dispatched all the way through to the immediate customer?	There is a documented traceability system that allows tracking of the shipped product from a production unit or a group of production units that are part of a group all the way through to the immediate customer. The information regarding the batch of the shipped product is linked to the information of the origin of the given product, when it has been directly cultivated or acquired from third parties.	1
13.4	Are the necessary records that support the compliance with the requirements of the Florverde® standards archived and made available for a minimum period of two years?	Physical or digital records related to compliance with the requirements of the Florverde® standards are archived and made available for a minimum period of two years. When they first apply for the Florverde® certification, there are records available of at least three (3) months prior to the certification inspection.	1

14

STATE AND USE OF THE FLORVERDE® SUSTAINABLE FLOWERS MARK OF CONFORMITY



Holders of the Florverde® certification are allowed to use the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers' mark of conformity provided they comply with the conditions described in this chapter and the General Rules for the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers Certification. When the conditions of use of the mark of conformity are complied with by the holder and they decide to use it, they must inform the customer in a clear and transparent manner of the conditions of use of the mark of conformity and what it means to purchase a Florverde® certified product.

No.	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT	Level
14.1	Do they use the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers' mark of conformity in accordance with the General Regulations for Florverde® Sustainable Flowers Certification and the sublicense and certification agreement?	To make use of the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers' mark of conformity on a product, must do so in accordance with the General Regulations for Florverde® Sustainable Flowers Certification and the sublicense and certification agreement. The Florverde® Sustainable Flowers' mark of conformity can be used and appear on the product, on the packaging which is destined for the final consumer, or at the point of sale, as well as in business communications.	1
14.2	Do they communicate the proper use of the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers' mark of conformity to their direct customers?	They communicate to their direct customers about the implementation of best practices for traceability and use of the Florverde® Sustainable Flowers' mark of conformity, as well as the fact of being certified and not using the seal when mixture percentages are not met.	1

RECORD UPDATES

DOCUMENT UPDATED	DOCUMENT REPLACED	PUBLICATION DATE	DESCRIPTION OF MODIFICATIONS
Florverde Standards for the sustainable production of flowers and ornamentals Version 7.0 January, 2017 Edition 7.0-1 July, 2017	Florverde Standards for the sustainable production of flowers and ornamentals Version 7.0 January, 2017	July, 2017	Clarification and adjustments on the next requirements and compliance criteria: 1.1, 1.5, 1.7, 1.8, 2.3, 2.4, 2.15, 4.8, 4.15, 4.19, 5.9, 5.12, 5.14, 6.21, 7.9, 8.17, 9.7, 9.8, 12.15 Introduction at Chapter 2 (Labor rights) has been modified and ILO Convention 182 (Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999) has been included. Introduction of Chapter 4 (Health and safety management in the workplace) was modified. Modification in the whole document of the next texts: "local current and applicable legislation" with "current and applicable legislation"; and also, "correspondant authority" with "pertinent authority".
Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.0 January 2017 Edition 7.0-2 May 2018	Florverde Standards for the Sustainable Production of Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.0 January 2017 Edition 7.0-1 July 2017	May 2018	Adjustment in the drafting of the requirement and compliance criteria 2.7
Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1 October 2018	Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.0 January 2017 Edition 7.0-2 May 2018	October 2018	Clarification and adjustments in drafting requirements and compliance criteria: 1.6, 2.1, 2.6, 2.9, 4.7, 4.10, 4.14, 4.22, 4.23, 4.26, 5.1, 5.3, 5.6, 5.12, 6.2, 6.16, 10.5, 10.6 y 13.2 New requirements: 4.25, 5.2, 6.11 y 11.4 Adjustments in the introduction of the chapters 1 y 4
Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1.1. July 2020	Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1 October 2018	July 2020	Adjustment to requirement 14.1
Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1.2. July 2021	Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1.1. July 2020		New requirements: 7.4 y 10.9



DOCUMENT UPDATED	DOCUMENT REPLACED	PUBLICATION DATE	DESCRIPTION OF MODIFICATIONS
Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1.3. September 2023	Florverde Standards for the Production of Sustainable Flowers and Ornamentals Version 7.1.2. July 2021	September 2023	New requirements: 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13 and 3.7 Clarification and adjustments in drafting requirements and compliance criteria: 1.8, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.15, 3.1, 4.14, 4.25, 4.26, 7.18, 7.35, 9.2 y 9.3

- For more detailed information about the changes made, please contact the technical and administrative secretariat of Florverde Sustainable Flowers.

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