SAN-P-SP-10-V1

SAN POLICY

Compliance with Critical Criterion 3.1 for wastewater from processing operations applied to soil

Issue Date:	Binding date:	Expiration date:
August 30, 2017	July 1, 2017 - retrospectively	Until next review

Developed by:	Approved by:
Standards and Policy Unit, SAN secretariat	Standards and Policy Director

Linked to (code and name of documents, if applicable):

- SAN-S-SP-1-V1.2 SAN Sustainable Agriculture Standard, July 2017
- SAN-R-SP-1-V1.2 Certification Rules 2017

Replaces:

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Clause or criterion number and text:

Critical criterion 3.1 Wastewater from processing operations is not discharged into aquatic ecosystems unless it has undergone treatment to meet SAN industrial wastewater parameters. Wastewater from processing operations is not applied to land with very sandy or highly permeable soils, where slopes exceed 8%, or where the water table is seasonally or permanently high. Wastewater from processing operations may not be applied to soil unless it has undergone treatment to remove particulates and toxins and to reduce acidity and complies with additional SAN industrial wastewater parameters for irrigation. Wastewater from processing operations may not be mixed with clean water for the purpose of meeting SAN industrial wastewater parameters.

SAN industrial wastewater parameters for irrigation:

Water Quality Parameter	Value
Intestinal nematodes (arithmetic mean No. of eggs per liter)	≤ 1
Fecal coli forms (geometric mean No. per 100 ml)	≤ 1000

Applicable to:	Audit type:
Authorized Certification Bodies and Auditors	All

Regions:

All

Crops:	Type of organizations:
All	All

1. INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN) is a coalition of non-profit conservation and rural development organizations in the Americas, Africa, Europe and Asia promoting the environmental and social sustainability of agricultural activities through the development of good practice standards, certification and the training of rural producers throughout the world. For more information about the Sustainable Agriculture Network, visit its website: www.san.ag.

Rainforest Alliance is a growing network of people who are inspired and committed to working together to achieve our mission of conserving biodiversity and ensuring sustainable livelihoods. For more information about Rainforest Alliance, visit its website: http://www.rainforest-alliance.org.

The SAN and Rainforest Alliance (RA) co-own the SAN/RA assurance system, and SAN manages its daily operations. SAN develops, manages and owns the SAN Sustainable Agriculture Standard and its related certification documents. Individual farms and group administrators that comply with SAN standards can apply to use the Rainforest Alliance Certified™ seal for products grown or raised on their certified farms.

2. SAN POLICY - COMPLIANCE WITH CRITICAL CRITERION 3.1 FOR WASTEWATER FROM PROCESSING OPERATIONS APPLIED TO SOIL

1. This SAN Policy only applies to the following clauses of the critical criterion 3.1:
   a. Wastewater from processing operations is not applied to land with very sandy or highly permeable soils, where slopes exceed 8%, or where the water table is seasonally or permanently high.
      i. As an exception thereof, application of wastewater from processing operations - not intended for irrigation - is permitted, where slopes exceed 8% and only if these waters have been previously treated and destined areas' characteristics for their deposit or application avoid runoff or infiltration.
   b. Wastewater from processing operations may not be applied to soil unless it has undergone treatment to remove particulates and toxins and to reduce acidity and complies with additional SAN industrial wastewater parameters for irrigation.
      i. When waste water from processing operations is destined for irrigation of **production areas with fruits or vegetables crops for fresh consumption**, compliance with SAN industrial wastewater parameters for irrigation, through the respective water analysis, shall be demonstrated – without any exception.
      ii. When waste water from processing operations is destined for irrigation of **production areas with crops that are <u>not</u> for fresh consumption,** operations may leave out water analyses under the condition that the characteristics of the processing processes generating this waste water do not represent a risk of contamination with fecal coliforms or intestinal nematodes and that actions are taken to prevent this contamination (such as washing machinery, washing hands or others).
   c. For the situation defined in the clauses 2.1a and 2.1b, the requirements of critical criterion 2.2 shall be met at all times, specifically the degradation of natural ecosystems due to the deposit of waste water.