

**[BAAFPS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 01,
August 08, 2009]**

GUIDELINES FOR ACCREDITATION OF MANGO CLASSIFIERS

Pursuant to the Philippine National Standard (PNS) for Mangoes (PNS/BAFPS 13:2004) which provides the minimum requirements and criteria for classification of mangoes based on general appearance, quality, condition and size the following sets the rules for granting/maintaining/withdrawing accreditation for individuals applying as mango classifiers.

Definition of Terms

Mango Classifiers – sorter/evaluator who classifies mango fruits according to minimum standards set by the PNS intended for domestic and export market.

SECTION I. General Provisions

A. Objectives

The guidelines are hereby adopted, promulgated and issued to achieve the following objectives:

1. To ensure that mangoes intended for the domestic and export markets are classified according to PNS for Mangoes;
2. To ensure that the commodity is priced fairly for the benefit of the mango farmers, traders, processors and/or exporters;
3. To establish a pool of accredited mango classifiers able to provide the services to farmers, traders, processors and/or exporters; and
4. To provide job opportunities to individuals technically capable of carrying out the classification activity with integrity.

B. Coverage

The provisions of this Administrative Order shall apply to any individual requesting for accreditation that are technically competent to perform the duties in section C. Classification activities may be conducted on-farm, common packinghouse facilities or at the exporters end using the provisions stipulated in the PNS/BAFPS 13:2004

C. Duties and Responsibilities of an Accredited Mango Classifier

The following are the duties and responsibilities of an accredited mango classifier. Non-performance of the duties based on actual reported cases and results of investigations can be used as a ground for penalties, cancellation or suspension of the accreditation.

1. provide proper classification of mangoes according to PNS for Mangoes;
2. regularly attend Update Courses on mango classification which also features experience sharing; and
3. submit to the National Accreditation Committee (NAC) a list of farmers/establishments/organizations, together with their contact details where service has been rendered.

Reports should be submitted at least once a year through the Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) Secretariat. If the accredited mango classifier is affiliated with a mango association (growers/exporters), the association should also be furnished a copy of the same report.

SECTION II. Minimum Qualifications for Accreditation of Mango Classifies

Any individual applying for accreditation as mango classifier must satisfy the following minimum qualifications.

1. must be a Filipino citizen;
2. must know how to read and write;
3. should be physically fit;
4. with good moral character and;
5. must have attended the required pre-requisite training course on mango classification as required by the NAC; and
6. passed the written and practical examinations administered by the NAC.

SECTION III. Composition of the Committee/Technical Working Group

There shall be created a National Accreditation Committee (NAC) and Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG)

A. Composition of National Accreditation Committee

The National Accreditation Committee (NAC) is hereby established and shall be composed of the following:

Chairman: Director
Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)

Vice-Chairman: Director
Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS)

Members: Chief
 Plant Quarantine Service
 Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)
 One representative from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
 One representative from a mango growers association
 One representative from a mango exporters association

Secretariat Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS)

B. Composition of Regional Technical Working Group

The Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) is hereby established and shall be composed of the following:

Chairman	Regional Executive Director Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Unit
Co-Chairman	Division Chief, Agri-business Marketing Assistance Division Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Unit
Members	Regional Seed Laboratory Chief Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) One representative from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) One representative from a mango growers association One representative from a mango exporters association One representative from a mango classifiers association One representative from a consumer group
Secretariat	BAFPS Focal Persons or the Secretariat created by the BPI

B. Term of Office

Members from the private sector will have a term of office of three (3) years without

prejudice to being reappointed. In case of vacancy due to retirement, resignation, transfer, incapacitation or death, the agency or organization may nominate replacement/s to serve the unexpired portion of the term subject to the approval of the Accreditation Committee.

C. Duties and Responsibilities

The following will be the duties and responsibilities of the NAC and RTWG

National Accreditation Committee:

1. provide the overall policy guidelines and direction of program;
2. review applications endorsed by the RTWG;
3. issue identification cards and accreditation certificate signed by the Chairman;
4. ensure that regular trainings/seminars are conducted to enhance capability of mango classifiers; and
5. hear appeals;

Regional Technical Working Group:

1. evaluate application forms from individuals requesting accreditation;
2. conduct written examination and/or oral interview;
3. recommend/endorse qualified applications to the Chairman of the NAC for approval;
4. conduct investigation of reported incidents of misconduct or failure to comply with any of the conditions set forth in the certificate of accreditation;
5. ensures that reports are submitted to the NAC;
6. hear appeals;

D. Functions of the Secretariat

There shall be Secretariat support for both the NAC and RTWG.

The National Accreditation Committee Secretariat (NACS) shall be designated by the Director of the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Products (BAFPS) and shall perform the following functions:

1. act as a link between the RTWG and the NAC;
2. prepare minutes of the NAC meetings; and
3. perform other related duties as may be given by the Accreditation Committee.

Meanwhile, the Regional Focal Person of the BAFPS that shall act as the RTWG Secretariat or the Secretariat to be established by the RTWG Chairman will have the following functions:

1. provide application form to mango classifier applicant;
2. receives all applications and conducts documentary evaluation;
3. coordinates actual field evaluation of applicants together with RTWG to confirm compliance of the applicant to approved criteria and to