Non GMO for technical markets

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1 Introduction

ISCC is applicable for all types of biomass and biomass-based products. Next to the mandatory requirements, which are for instance the sustainability standard for biomass production (202) or requirements on the chain of custody (203), the economic operator can choose from voluntary Add-ons. These add-ons are based on the general ISCC PLUS standard. In general, only ISCC PURE certified material is accepted under ISCC PLUS. It must be guaranteed that the whole supply chain starting from farm/plantation until last conversion unit is ISCC certified. For further information, please study requirements on the chain of custody (203). In case of the certification of crops claiming not to contain genetically modified organisms (hereinafter called “Non GMO”, whereby genetically modified material is referred to as GM material) the audit scope must be extended by using the ISCC Add-on for Non GMO. The requirements of the Non GMO standard for technical markets are laid down in this document.

Major subject of certification described within this document are single farms, first gathering points and/or conversion units. This document describes requirements especially for producers of Non GMO material considered for technical applications. Further downstream elements of the supply chain will not undergo additional audit procedures. After a successful audit an individual ISCC PLUS certificate for Non GMO for technical markets can be issued. For the process of extension of the audit scope in the case of an existing certificate please also see ISCC PLUS 255 “ISCC Add-ons and Extensions”.

2 Scope

This document describes the requirements for supply chain elements, for which the requirements regarding production, supply and distribution of material considered for a Non GMO certification for technical markets, apply. Major level of certification described within this document is farm. However all further downstream supply chain elements must meet specific Chain of Custody requirements.

(1) Management system of an enterprise, plant, factory premises or operation (responsibilities, procedures and reporting with respect to handling of GMO/Non GMO material)

(2) Relevant elements of the production and distribution chain

   a. Farm/plantation

   b. First gathering point (warehouses or traders which source (buy) biomass from a variety of farms or plantations and sell sustainable biomass to customers)

   c. Conversion unit (traceability requirements apply as laid down in ISCC PLUS 203)

   d. Warehouse (Storage of biomass on demand of the first gathering point, i.e. the warehouse has to be located in the supply chain before the first gathering point and shall not buy biomass from farms and sell it to customers)
e. Trader/warehouse (Storage and/or trade of Non GMO biomass or related products after the first gathering point; traceability requirements apply as laid down in ISCC PLUS 203)

f. Transport of products (e.g. with truck, train, barge or vessel; traceability requirements apply as laid down in ISCC PLUS 203).

### 3 Normative references

As a basic principle, all relevant ISCC documents are valid for the scope. The normative references display the documents whose contents are linked and have to be considered.

Relevant references:

- ISCC PLUS 201 System Basics
- ISCC PLUS 202 Sustainability Requirements – ISCC PLUS Standard on Sustainability Requirements for the Production of Biomass
- ISCC PLUS 202a Sustainability Requirements – Equivalence Benchmark
- ISCC PLUS 203 Requirements for Traceability
- ISCC PLUS 204-01 Mass balance requirements or
- ISCC PLUS 204-02 Physical Segregation requirements
- ISCC PLUS 205-05 Additional Guidance for GMO / Non GMO material
- ISCC PLUS 255 ISCC Add-ons and Extensions
- ISCC PLUS 260-02 Bioplastics
4 Technical Provisions

4.1 Non GMO requirements

Different sets of requirements for Non GMO for technical markets exist for

4.1.1. The farm/plantation
4.1.2. The supply chain

Requirements on the agricultural production level include criteria on seed input, safety distances and material handling at the farm/plantation. Requirements for the supply chain apply from the First Gathering Point downstream and include criteria on material handling.

4.1.1 Requirements for farm/plantations

a) Seeding Material

The farm/plantation growing Non GMO feedstock for technical markets must ensure, that seeding material or any other agricultural inputs are Non GMO materials. Seeding material used shall be of Non-GMO strains, e.g. by being listed as approved Non GMO variety in an official governmental variety list. Therefore, the farmer shall maintain evidence, like certificates of origin or copies of seed product tags. Alternatively, the farmer may provide evidence of independent PCR-analysis conducted by an authorized laboratory for samples of the seeding material.

b) Safety distances

The farmer growing Non GMO feedstock shall maintain appropriate safety distances from adjacent GMO-grown fields if necessary. In countries where GMO cultivation is per se not allowed or underlies very strict requirements on safety distances to Non GMO feedstock safety distances do not apply.

In order to avoid cross-pollination, adequate measures that a farmer should implement are described in the guidance ISCC PLUS 205-05.

This criterion shall address the issue of contamination of Non GMO claimed material due to possible cross-pollination. This implies to check positions of the fields of “Non GMO” feedstock and fields of GMO feedstock. In case of foreign fields that cannot be identified those have to be regarded as GMO feedstock fields. It should also take into account likelihood of crosspollination for different feedstock, landscape conditions and the surrounding area. The farmer/grower is requested to take adequate measures, e.g. appropriate distance to relevant fields.

c) Material handling at the farm/plantation

On farm level Non GMO for technical markets material has to be physically segregated from other GMO containing material. Non GMO for technical markets crop has to be planted, cultivated, harvested, handled, and delivered using only equipment and facilities free of other varieties and other grain. Adequate measures of how to achieve the purity of other varieties and other grain are laid down in the guidance ISCC PLUS 205-05.
4.1.2 Requirements on the supply chain

Material considered as Non GMO for technical markets shall fulfill the requirements on traceability and information transfer as stated in ISCC PLUS 203 (Requirements for Traceability).

Non GMO material for technical markets must be delivered physically segregated from the farm to the first gathering point. The first recipient must give possibilities to check the material for its GMO content at the delivery entrance. Non GMO material for technical markets can be traded in a mass balancing system further down the supply chain.

The company shall ensure that the certified material underwent a mass balancing system according to ISCC PLUS 204-01, mass balance requirements.