Using GRAS for Efficient Audit Preparation

ISCC STAKEHOLDER MEETING NORTH AMERICA
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How can use of the GRAS Tool reduce on farm auditing?
GRAS Measures

- Land use Change / Zero Deforestation
- Biodiversity
- Carbon Stock
- Social Idiocies

Measures from year 2000 to Current by:
- Assessment of source area
- Enhance vegetation index
Example of use by an auditor

www.gras-system.org/login/
Some items needed to review

✔ Field Maps
✔ Proof of land ownership / lease
✔ Nutrient Management Plan
✔ Employees
✔ Crops raised and amounts
✔ Self Declaration
What we learned

**PROS**

- Internet speed is critical
- Farmers are open minded about the process
- Gives a great overview of the land use over several years
- Reduces travel time to farms
- Farmers will agree to bring in documents and review with auditor

**CONS**

- Rural areas have poor or no connectivity
- Auditors need to understand farming practices in the area being audited
- Takes office time in planning and reviewing
- Ground truthing is still needed
- Farmer will not give copies of farm records to an auditor (or anyone)
Conclusion

The audit to Principle 1 can be done through the use of the tool.

(ISCC 202 Sustainability Requirements 3.0 - Principle 1: Protection of Land with High Biodiversity Value or High Carbon Stock).

The North American Farmer is willing to share information but not lose control of photos or documents to an auditor.

GRAS can be an important tool but an auditor still has to view and understand local farming practices.

As numbers of farmers increase, the cost of completing a square root of the farms will be a deterrent for the FGP.