

	Qmark International Certifications Pvt. Ltd. PROCEDURE ORGANIC WILD HONEY CERTIFICATION	Doc. No.	QCS-14
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Policy and procedure on Certification of Organic Wild Honey

Organic Wild Honey harvest refers to honey harvested from the honeybee colonies in the wild area in a sustainable way by ensuring organic integrity from collection to processing and packing by the collectors.

Scope of Wild Honey Certification:

The policy aims at prescribing minimum standards and procedures in the identification of harvesting locations, harvesting procedure, extraction method, transport to collection centre, processing, packing, labeling, storing and transport to marketplace, ultimately complying with the general organic standards prescribed under NPOP.

QIC Policy on wild honey certification:

- Qmark International Certifications Pvt. Ltd. shall inspect and certify the Organic wild honey collected and processed by the operator after evaluating the procedures followed in the harvesting and processing methods as per our Policy under the overall guidelines given in the NPOP Standards.
- Procedures for evaluation include selection of site for Wild honey collection, Permission records from Forest Department, harvesting method, processing method, handling and packing, labeling, storage and transport to ensure that there is no contamination of the organic honey from any unapproved materials, chemicals, heavy metals and bio-contaminants. The evaluation will also include the documents related to the purchase of honey from hunters, and the traceability of further production, processing packing, labeling transportation, and sale of the wild harvested honey.

Procedures- wild honey certification	Issue Date	Prepared:	Approved:
	26-08-2022	Quality Manager	CEO

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- The inspector shall assess the following for conformity with our policy and NPOP guidelines for organic products:
 - Legal status of the operator
 - Overview Map of the collection area
 - Village maps
 - Nature of plant species on which honeybees will be foraging and the season
 - Risk assessment – proximity of urban dwellings, agricultural lands, industries,
 - Details of harvesting area, harvesting methods
 - Training to all stake holders in sustainable method of harvesting and organic integrity
 - Name, Father's Name, village, and code No. of the honey hunters
 - Inspection of 5% of the harvest
 - Verification of materials and methods used for harvesting
 - Method of extraction, settling, straining and the type of vessels used.
 - Noting down the temperature for extraction and processing
 - Method of transport to collection centre
 - Purchase procedure at the collection centre and verification of receipts and registers.
 - Lot Number system, packing and labeling procedure
 - Sampling by the operator and the Certification Body.
 - Storage yards, cleaning methods, protection from pests and diseases,
 - Sales invoices, customer list, transport method and how commingling is avoided with conventional products.
 - Name of the certifier of the products and verification of TCs in case of purchase of organically certified honey from other operators.

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An Inspection Report will be prepared and furnished to Qmark International Certifications Pvt. Ltd.

Evaluation: The evaluator shall verify whether the inspection has covered all aspects mentioned in the policy and submit an evaluation report. The Quality Manager shall prepare Inspection and Certification Report.

Certification: The Inspection and Certification report shall be submitted along with all details to the Certification committee for their decision. The certified product can be labeled as 'organic'. To keep the organic status, the operator must get the project inspected and certified every year by the certification body.

The certification decision shall be informed to the operator. As per the advice of the Certification Committee, the Quality Manager shall issue the Certificate to the operator. The certificate shall be valid for one year from the date of inspection.

There is no conversion period in the case of wild harvest products.

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