



## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIC ACCREDITATION SERVICE

A non-profit organisation  
235 Sims Street, Suite 22B,  
Dickinson, ND 58601, USA  
Tel: +1 701 483 5504 Fax: +1 701 483 5508  
E Mail: info@ioas.org  
Web: www.ioas.org

### ISO Guide 65 accreditation

#### Official Notice Number 2010-01

Issued: July 23, 2010

#### **Criteria for inputs certification under ISO Guide 65 accreditation**

The IOAS issued an official notice 2009-04 on June 16, 2009 concerning approval and certification of high nitrogen fertilisers. This notice refers to input certification in general and as a specific scope of accreditation under ISO Guide 65.

Certification of inputs suitable for use in organic production systems is increasingly common and a relied upon guide for operators when selecting suitable production aids.

Neither ISO Guide 65 nor any of the major national rules provide any guidance on how inputs certification should be performed and particularly whether on-site inspection is required. Given that this activity takes place on a global level, it is the experience of the IOAS that there is considerable variability in the inspection and certification measures applied.

The IFOAM certification requirements are the only guidelines currently available on this topic. On-site inspection of the input manufacturer is required at least once every three years.

In light of this, the IOAS Board have therefore revisited the subject of inputs certification as a scope of ISO Guide 65 accreditation and specifically the concern over the lack of a set of defined requirements for inputs certification under this accreditation.

The IOAS has decided that it cannot continue to accredit such input certification systems without inspection and that, as of now, certification bodies applying for ISO Guide 65 accreditation with a scope of inputs certification must apply the IFOAM criteria 8.2.1, 8.2.4 and 8.2.5.

Those certification bodies that currently hold ISO 65 accreditation with a scope of inputs certification with the IOAS must apply these criteria as of **August 1, 2011** and that where such certification systems have been operated without on-site inspection, all certified input manufacturers must have had an on-site inspection by **July 31, 2012**.

End