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# Center for Smart Agriculture

## Organic Certification and Inspection Systems



**Module 4: Inspection and Certification Process**  
**Session2: Inspection**



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# Inspection and Certification Process

## Authorization of Inspection and certification agency

- ✓ The National Accreditation Body (NAB) is responsible for giving approval on the authorization of an applicant Inspection and Certification Agency.
- ✓ Before approval, the NAB satisfies itself that the applicant Inspection and Certification Agency meets all the requirements necessary for authorization.



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- ✓ Authorization status is awarded only for the certification of categories of production and processing covered by these Rules.



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On approval given by NAB, the APEDA issues a Certificate of Authorization, containing at least the following details:

- Certificate of Authorization Number;
- The name and address of the Inspection and Certification Agency;
- The nature of the activities covered;
- The date of issue and date of expiry;





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Organic Inspection, Source: Google Image



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# Annual Surveillance and Review of Inspection and Certification Agencies

- The Authorized Inspection and Certification Agency submit an annual report covering the turnover, number of projects certified, under certification and products exported in terms of quantity and value to the APEDA.
- The Evaluation Committee (EC) is required to make a review evaluation on the basis of the annual report and recommend measures and action to be taken to the APEDA.



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- Procedures for the review evaluation shall be normally identical to those of the initial evaluation

Depending upon whether the Authorized Inspection and Certification Agency has complied with conditions imposed by the NAB, NAB may take any of the following courses of action:

- Renew the Authorization period if the period has expired;





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- Impose new conditions requiring corrective action according to an agreed Time table;
- Extend the authorization period subject to a full re-evaluation during the ensuing 12 month period or shorter;





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# Inspection

Standard inspection procedures shall be followed by the inspection and certification agencies. The policies and procedures for inspection shall be documented and shall include-

- The basis for assignment of inspectors.
- Grounds for objection to inspection by Licensed Operator.
- Instructions for inspection visits.



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- Inspection methods and frequency.
- Inspection requirements.
- Sampling requirements.
- Instructions for preparation of reports.



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- ☐ The inspector shall be assigned by the Authorized Inspection and Certification Agencies.
  1. Ensure sufficient expertise needed for the actual inspection.
  2. Exclude any possible conflict of interest.
- ☐ Licensed Operators shall have neither the right to choose nor to recommend inspectors.



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- ☐ The Licensed Operators shall have the right to be informed about the identity of the inspector before the inspection visit.
- ☐ Continuous inspection by a single inspector for the same Licensed Operator should be avoided.
- ☐ The Authorized Inspection and Certification Agency shall apply the precautionary measures during inspection and certification.
- ☐ The NAB shall be informed about the action taken on the Licensed Operator.





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**THANK YOU**