



कृषि और प्रसंस्कृत खाद्य उत्पाद
निर्यात विकास प्राधिकरण
(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

**Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority**
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

Date: 1st September 2022

FFV/2020-21/000212

Sub: Invitation to Table Grape Exporters for submitting their EOI for Exporting Grapes to China

Dear Exporters,

For the upcoming Indian Grape Season to be started from January 2023, it is believed that The Chinese GACC will continue with their protocol of inspections of the Packhouses and Farms (virtually or physically) in continuation of inspection and approval of 20 pack houses in March 2022. The inspections are likely to happen probably in the **1st week of December 2022**. The inspections will be carried out as per the instructions mentioned in the protocol by GACC (Protocol attached with this email for your ready reference). The Packhouses and Farms to be inspected will be selected by GACC from the final list which will be sent by APEDA to them.

Therefore, with this email, APEDA is inviting the Indian Table Grape Exporters to submit their **Expression of Interest (EOI)**. The concerned exporters interested in exporting grapes to China have to reply to this email on or before **12th September, 2022**. By submitting the EOI, they also will be giving their consent to participate in the complete process.

The EOI has to be submitted by email with the names of Packhouses and Farms in the below appended format:

1. Packhouse Details :

Name of Exporter	Point of Contact			Packing-house		
	Name	Mobile No.	Email ID	Name	Address	APEDA Recognition Certificate No.

2. Farmers Details:

Sr. No.	Name of Farmer	Area in Hectare	Grape Variety	Registration No.	Location

In the Indian Grape Season 2022, The Chinese GACC had introduced the system of Inspections of Packhouses and Farms of Exporters interested to Export Grapes to China from India. These inspections were conducted virtually through video conferencing. While, the last year inspections, the Chinese GACC inspectors were found very stringent as per their procedure. The deviations/deficiencies in Quality, Food Safety, Hygiene and Covid-19 Prevention protocols in the Packhouse as well as on the farms were minutely observed as per their procedure. Therefore, Exporters/Farmers need to be prudent in our approach of selection and submission of our final list of packhouses and farms to the Chinese GACC.

Step-by-Step Process to Compile the Final list of Packhouses/Farms to be sent to the GACC for Season 2023 is as following:

- Every Packhouse and Farm submitted by Exporters in their EOI will be undergoing Pre-liminary Inspection by APEDA in the Month of **October 2022**.
- APEDA will authorize a certification agency to conduct these audits in the Month of **September 2022**.
- For the pre-liminary inspections, personnel from APEDA will accompany the certification agency team on every inspection site.
- The pre-liminary inspections shall be based on protocol of various standards whose references as given below:
 - **For Pack-houses:** The Reference Standards will be the BRC Standards of Food Safety, Hygiene and Quality.
 - **For Farms:** The Reference Standards will be the Global Gap Standards.
 - **For Covid-19 Prevention:** The Reference Standards will be the Inspection Instructions File shared by the Chinese GACC last year. (Attached a copy for your ready reference)
- Application of Packhouse and Farms approved by APEDA after the preliminary inspections will only be eligible to be a part of the final list to be sent to the Chinese GACC by APEDA for the season 2023.

All concerned exporters are therefore requested to have full information before applying. All Exporters are also requested to conduct proper due-diligence before sending their EOI to APEDA on or before 12th September, 2022.

For any queries please contact the below following APEDA officials.

Mr. R. Ravindra, Deputy General Manager
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Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



U.K.Vats
General Manager

Video inspection arrangement of fruit enterprises

I. Preliminary preparation

- i. Confirm the list of orchards and packaging plants inspected this time.

According to the preliminary communication between the two sides, China will select a certain number of orchards and packaging plants for video inspection.

If you have any objection, you can negotiate with the Chinese contact personnel, and finally determine the orchard and packaging plant for video inspection, hoping to cover all types of orchard and packaging plant (including scale, facility conditions, etc.).The determined orchards and packaging plants shall meet the requirements of real-time connection inspection.

- ii. Confirm the time of video connection inspection, including date and specific time (including your time and Beijing time, China).
- iii. The inspected orchard shall provide text introduction related to the orchard, provide 5-10 minutes of on-site video in advance, and connect in real time for remote video inspection.

The contents include:

1. Official registration data (registration number), basic information of orchard (planting varieties, area, annual output, countries to be exported, whether GAP and IPM are implemented), agricultural operation records, chemical agent application records, whether professional plant quarantine staff are equipped, personnel training records, treatment methods of falling and bad fruits, whether there is agricultural residue detection report, etc.

2. Whether orchard monitoring (orchard itself, official) is implemented for pests concerned in the protocol, whether specific monitoring plans and overall prevention and control measures are formulated, whether monitoring is carried out under official supervision, and whether pest monitoring, investigation and prevention and control records are kept.
3. Pest reinfection measures of harvest process and post harvest.
4. Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control in orchards (including decontamination of personnel and sites, protective measures, relevant training and system documents).
 - 4.1. Epidemic prevention requirements and publicity materials shall be posted on the site (relevant photos shall be provided).
 - 4.2. The enterprise shall provide epidemic prevention training records and relevant training materials for employees, loading and unloading workers and transportation workers.
 - 4.3. Employee health status standing book and physical examination certificate (including monitoring related to COVID-19).
 - 4.4. The risk exposure information reporting system formulated by the orchard includes relevant records and protection requirements for outsiders entering the orchard.
 - 4.5. Relevant systems formulated by the enterprise, including but not limited to the provisions on employee symptom report and leave post policy; A return to work policy shall be formulated to the staff who have been infected but have recovered; COVID-19's emergency response plan.

4.6. Cleaning and disinfection records of transportation vehicles and internal environment of warehouse (including shelves, utensils, etc.).

4.7. Enterprises need to know: "in case of a COVID-19, enterprise should inform Chinese side in a timely manner; enterprises affected by COVID-19 should independently suspend the exports to China".

iv. The inspected packaging factory shall provide relevant text introduction and real-time connection for remote video inspection. The inspection contents include:

1. Basic information of the packaging factory (including official registration documents, main export countries, varieties, quantities, etc.)

2. Display the whole process of fruit receiving, sorting, cleaning, packaging, storage and shipping, including the sanitation and epidemic prevention measures of processing sites, storage warehouses and means of transport, the traceability management of fruit processing, the screening and elimination of defective fruits, etc.

3. Introduce the prevention and control measures of the packaging factory for pests, especially the prevention and control measures for quarantine pests concerned by China.

4. Training of management personnel and processing personnel of packaging plant.

5. Storage and shipping methods of fruits: whether they are stored separately in different cold storages, whether measures are taken to prevent reinfection of pests, and whether cold treatment is adopted.

6. Application of export label on the packing cartons (whether the words "export to the People's Republic of China" are marked).

7. Wooden packaging for export (whether brand-new wooden packaging is adopted, whether it is stored separately, and whether IPPC special identification is applied in a standardized manner).

8. Export quarantine procedures and specific control measures of the official plant protection organization of the exporting country;

9. Covid-19 epidemic prevention and control of packaging plant (including decontamination and protective measures of personnel and site, whether measures to prevent COVID-19 have been taken for those who directly contact with fruits and the internal and external packaging of fruits during packaging).

9.1. Photos of epidemic prevention requirements and publicity materials posted on site.

9.2. The enterprise shall provide epidemic prevention training records and relevant training materials for employees, loading and unloading workers and transportation workers.

9.3. Employee health status standing book and physical examination certificate (including monitoring related to COVID-19).

9.4. Risk exposure information reporting system, including relevant records and protection requirements for outsiders entering the orchard.

9.5. Relevant systems formulated by the enterprise, including but not limited to the provisions on employee symptom report and leave post policy; A return to work policy shall be formulated to staff who have been infected but have recovered; COVID-19 emergency response plan.

9.6. Cleaning and disinfection records of transportation vehicles and internal environment of warehouse (including shelves, utensils, operating table, door handles, utensil handles, toilets, etc.).

9.7. Enterprises need to know: "in case of a COVID-19, enterprise should inform Chinese side in a timely manner; enterprises affected by COVID-19 should independently suspend the exports to China".

9.8. The food processing environment needs to keep a distance, including setting a workbench only on one side of the production line, misplaced production or assembling a baffle in the middle of the production line to prevent face-to-face situations of employees (it can be displayed in video inspection, no need to provide materials).

9.9. The enterprise shall be equipped with ventilation and water supply and drainage systems suitable for production, and provide inspection, cleaning and disinfection records.

- v. Select the software used for video connection, such as Zoom, and test it to confirm that it can meet the needs of real-time connection.

The equipment and network of real-time connection shall meet the needs of real-time connection inspection. Professional photographic equipment is recommended to avoid obstructing the inspection.

- vi. Personnel preparation.

The representative of your official plant protection organization knows about the plant quarantine system and export fruit management measures, can systematically and professionally introduce the relevant situation, and answer the relevant questions raised by the Chinese inspector during the inspection.

Please provide a translator who can accurately translate the introduction and the questions raised by Chinese inspectors.

Introducers of orchards and packaging plants can introduce the plant quarantine system and epidemic prevention and control system in the form of PPT, and answer the questions of Chinese inspectors.

The on-site connection personnel can understand the process and status of inspecting orchards and packaging plants, and can introduce and answer the questions of Chinese inspectors during real-time connection.

II. Inspection guarantee

- i. After the official connection date is finally confirmed, you side is requested to provide specific arrangements, including participants from your side, specific process arrangements, etc.
- ii. The introduction video of the orchard shall be sent to the Chinese inspectors in advance.
- iii. Contact China side in advance for real-time connection inspection and test.

III. Specific inspection contents

The specific real-time connection inspection shall include the following contents:

- i. Introduction to your overall plant quarantine system, official organization composition, management of export orchards and fruit packaging plants, official management measures for fruits exported to China, etc. Your introduction to COVID-19 control measures for export agricultural products.

- ii. For an overview of the inspected orchard, see I, iii for details. Introduce the video provided. Answer relevant questions raised by Chinese inspectors during the introduction.
- iii. For an overview of the inspected fruit packaging factory, see I, iv for details. Real time connection to introduce the process of fruit packaging factory. Answer relevant questions raised by Chinese inspectors during the introduction.

Item i is introduced by officials of your official plant protection organization, and items ii and iii are introduced by orchards and packaging plants respectively.

If you have any questions about the above scheme, please further communicate and negotiate with the Chinese contact person.