



RAINFOREST ALLIANCE GUIDANCE U

SERVICE PROVIDERS APPLICABILITY

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Linked to				
SA-S-SD-1 Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard, Farm Requirements 1.2.2, 5.3.9, 5.3.10 SA-P-SD-12 Policy Service Providers Working For Multiple Certificate Holders				
Country/region	Crop	Type of Certification		
All	All crops in the scope of the Rainforest Alliance certification system; please see Certification Rules.	Farm Certification		

INTRODUCTION

Service providers of Rainforest Alliance Certified Farms have to comply with applicable standard requirements, to make sure all relevant activities on certified farms are carried out in compliance with the Standard, even if they are carried out by people who are not employed directly by the certificate holder or group members. The certificate holder is responsible for the compliance of the service and labor providers with relevant standard requirements. The CH must have an oversight mechanism in place to check this, including verification during internal inspections and audits.

This Guidance clarifies the applicability of standard requirements for key service provider categories and activities. It refers to Standard Requirements:

- 1.2.2: encompasses all service provides including labor providers
- 5.3.9, 5.3.10: specific requirements for labor providers.

TYPES OF SERVICE PROVIDERS INCLUDED IN THE SCOPE

Requirement 1.2.2. applies only to service providers that work within the physical limits of the farm on:

- Field activities
- Processing activities
- Labor provision

Examples of service providers that are included:	Examples of service providers that are <u>NOT</u> included:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aerial spraying providers - Ground-based spraying providers - Short-term planting, pruning, pollination, or harvest worker - Security guards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service providers in government service that carry out activities that are not controlled by the certificate holder - Catering services - Transportation of workers

APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS

The following table shows the applicable requirements for each service provider category. Social Requirements from Chapter 5 apply to workers on the whole farm, not only those who work on the certified crop.



Examples of key service provider categories	Applicable requirements	Remarks
Labor provider who provides recruitment services: after recruitment the workers are hired by the certificate holder	5.3.9 and/or 5.3.10	As the certificate holder hires the workers recruited by the labor provider, the certificate holder is responsible for other applicable requirements in Chapter 5.
Labor provider who provides workers who remain hired by the labor provider	5.3 Wages and Contracts, All except 5.3.2 5.5 Working Conditions 5.5.1, 5.5.2 5.5.3 the part on maternity leave, not the part on nursing space	
All other service providers (non-labor providers)	5.3 <i>Wages and contracts</i> 5.3.1-5.3.8 except for 5.3.2, 5.3.11, 5.3.12 5.5 <i>Working Conditions</i> 5.5.1 Daily working hours and breaks 5.5.2 Overtime 5.5.4 Workers' children 5.6 <i>Health and Safety:</i> 5.6.9 Safety when working in hazardous situations 5.6.10 Safely working with tools 5.6.11 Protection of pregnant and nursing women 5.6.12 Imminent danger	
Aerial spraying providers	<i>All requirements for 'other service providers'</i> <u>and</u> 4.6.7 Aerial application Annex Chapter Farming, S7 Pesticides Management, Paragraph Aerial Application 5.6.16 Medical examination for pesticides handlers	
Ground-based spraying providers	<i>All requirements for 'other service providers'</i> <u>and</u> 4.5 <i>Integrated Pest Management (IPM)</i> , all requirements 4.6 <i>Agrochemicals Management</i> , all requirements including related Annexes including Annex Chapter Farming, S7 Pesticides Management and the Exceptional Use Policy	Relevant if the pesticide sprayers have management tasks in IPM, including monitoring of pests or natural enemies and/or taking decisions on spraying activities



Examples of key service provider categories	Applicable requirements	Remarks
	5.6.16 Medical examination for pesticides handlers	
Pruning teams	<i>All requirements for 'other service providers'</i> <i>and</i> <i>4.2 Pruning and renovation of tree crops</i> 4.2.1 Pruning cycle 4.2.2 Pruning 4.2.3 Renovation (applicable if selected)	Relevant if the whole pruning strategy is outsourced and the service provider determines when and where to prune

DOCUMENTED OVERSIGHT MECHANISM

Requirement 1.2.2 states that the certificate holder has an oversight mechanism in place to verify that service providers and labor providers meet the standard requirements that are applicable to them.

The oversight mechanism should include at least the following elements:

1. Contractual agreement with the service provider including compliance with the applicable requirements as indicated in the table above.
2. Inclusion of risks identified related to the operations of the service provider in the farm Risk assessment (Annex S03 requirement 1.3.1).
3. Inclusion of relevant risk mitigation measures in the Management plan.
4. Monitoring of service provider's compliance at least once a year during internal inspections.