

# **Fairtrade Standard for Herbs, Herbal Teas & Spices for Small Producer Organizations and traders**

**Also applicable to Contract Production for  
Rotational Crops**

**Current version: 01.05.2011\_v1.2**

**Expected date of next review: 2016**

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**For further information and Standards downloads:  
[www.fairtrade.net/standards.html](http://www.fairtrade.net/standards.html)**

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# Introduction

## How to use this Standard

Refer to the Standard for Small Producer Organizations as a separate document as updated by Fairtrade International (FLO) on its website.

Refer to the Fairtrade Standard for Contract Production as a separate document as updated by Fairtrade International (FLO) on its website.

Please note that the Fairtrade Trader Standard also applies. In cases where this Standard differs from the Fairtrade Trade Standard, the requirements presented in this Standard apply.

## Application

The Fairtrade product Standards for Small Producer Organizations have been revised according to the New Product Classification (based on the Central Product Classification). The new Standards apply from 1 July 2011.

## Monitoring of Changes

Fairtrade International reserves the right to amend Fairtrade Standards in accordance with Fairtrade International's Standard Operating Procedures ([http://www.fairtrade.net/setting\\_the\\_standards.html](http://www.fairtrade.net/setting_the_standards.html)). Requirements of Fairtrade Standards may be added, deleted, or otherwise modified. Those who have to meet Fairtrade Standards are required to monitor pending and finalized revisions on Fairtrade International's website.

Fairtrade Certification ensures the compliance with Fairtrade Standards. Revision of Fairtrade Standards may lead to a change in the requirements of Fairtrade Certification. Those who wish to be certified or have already undergone certification are required to monitor pending and finalized certification policies and compliance criteria on the certification body's website <http://www.flo-cert.net>.

## Change history

Version number	Date of publication	Changes
01.05.2011_v1.0	01.05.2011	- Reorganization of requirements based on the New Standards Framework - Inclusion of herbal teas according to new product classification based on Central Product Classification
01.05.2011_v1.1	01.08.2012	- Change in definition to include non-food applications and to exclude products that are covered by another product Standard - Deleted reference to products that are open to HL - Minor wording changes
01.05.2011_v1.2	1.12.2016	Inclusion of limited rotational crops under contract production.

# 1. General Requirements

## Intent and scope

All operators taking ownership of Fairtrade certified products and/or handling the Fairtrade Price and Premium are audited and certified.

### **This chapter applies to the certificate holder.**

This standard covers the purchase and sale of herbs, herbal teas and spices. For the sections under certification and traceability (only), the standard also cover any derivatives. For cotton and rice producers under contract production in India and Pakistan the standard covers all herbs and spices when grown as rotational crops,

The standard also covers secondary products and their derivatives. The definition of secondary products is included in Annex 1 of the Fairtrade Trader Standard.

A non-exhaustive list of products fitting the secondary products definition is published on the Fairtrade International website.

## 1.1 Certification

There are no additional requirements.

## 1.2 Labelling and Packaging

There are no additional requirements.

## 1.3 Product Description

The product Standard for Herbs, Herbal Teas & Spices applies to all herbs, herbal teas & spices in the Fairtrade Herbs and Spices list and to all countries inside Fairtrade's geographical scope.

**Herbs** consist of leaves, flowers, stems and roots from a variety of herbaceous plants. They include, for example: lemon verbena, dill, water mint, lemongrass, orange leaves, camomile, lemon balm, peppermint, borage, basil, celery, oregano, parsley, rosemary, thyme and caraway.

**Spices** consist of aromatic seeds, buds, roots, rhizomes, barks, pods, flowers or parts thereof, berries or other fruits from a variety of plants. They include, for example: pepper, capsicums (chillies and cayenne pepper), cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, mace, caraway, cumin, turmeric, cloves, cardamom and vanilla.

Herbs and spices are used either in fresh or in dried form, mainly to flavour foods but also for other food and non-food applications. **If a product is also covered by another Fairtrade product Standard, the respective Standard applies and the product cannot be certified as an herb, herbal tea or spice.**

For the *camelia sinensis* plant please refer to the Fairtrade Tea Standard.

*A non-exhaustive list of products fitting the above Herbs and Spices definition, the Fairtrade Herbs and Spices list, is published on the Fairtrade International website.*

## 1.4 Other product requirements

There are no additional requirements.

# 2. Trade

## Intent and scope

This chapter outlines the requirements that you need to comply with when you sell Fairtrade products.

**This chapter applies to the Fairtrade product.**

## 2.1 Traceability

There are no additional requirements.

## 2.2 Product Composition

There are no additional requirements.

## 2.3 Contracts

There are no additional requirements.

# 3. Production

### Intent and scope

This chapter outlines the ethical and sustainable production practices that are behind every Fairtrade product.

**This chapter applies to the Fairtrade product.**

There are no additional requirements.

# 4. Business and Development

### Intent and scope

This chapter outlines the requirements that are unique to Fairtrade and intends to lay the foundations for producer empowerment and development to take place.

**This chapter applies to the certificate holder.**

## 4.1 Sustaining Trade

**4.1.1** Sourcing plans must cover each harvest. Sourcing plans must be renewed a minimum of three months before they expire.

## 4.2 Pre-finance

**4.2.1** On request from the producer, the Fairtrade payer must make up to 60% of the value of the contract available as pre-finance to the producer at any time after signing the contract. The pre-finance must be made available at least six weeks prior to shipment.

Contract production operators please refer to the Fairtrade Standard for Contract Production on pre-finance.

## 4.3 Pricing

Fairtrade Minimum Prices and Fairtrade Premium levels for Fairtrade products are published separately to the product Standards.

**4.3.1** Where it exists, the Fairtrade Minimum Price is the Minimum Price to be paid to the seller by the buyer. In case market price is above the Fairtrade Minimum Price, then the market price prevails.

**4.3.2** Where no Fairtrade Minimum Price exists, the price paid to the producer is a negotiated price between the seller and the buyer. The negotiated price should take into account product quality and

the costs of sustainable production and of processing.

**4.3.3** On top of the negotiated price, Fairtrade Minimum Price or market price a Fairtrade Premium must be paid based on the negotiated price between the seller and the buyer.

**4.3.4** For products fitting Fairtrade International's Herbs & Spices definition without a fixed Fairtrade Minimum Price or fixed Fairtrade Premium, the Fairtrade Premium is set globally at 15% of the commercial price.

Fairtrade International reserves the right to set Fairtrade Minimum Prices for Herbs & Spices in the future.

**4.3.5 For secondary products:** There are no Fairtrade Minimum Prices defined for secondary products and their derivatives. Sellers of the product and its next buyers must negotiate prices for secondary products and their derivatives. A default Fairtrade Premium of 15% of the negotiated price must be paid in addition.

Fairtrade International reserves the right to set a Fairtrade Minimum Prices for secondary products and its derivatives in the future.

**4.3.6 Payment Terms:** For purchases made at farm gate or ex works levels, payment must be made upon receipt of the product.

For purchases made at FOB level, payment shall be **net cash** against a full set of documents on first presentation. The documents to be presented will be those stipulated in the contract and customary in the Herbs and Herbal Teas & Spices trade.

**4.3.7 Late payment:** For contracts involving Fairtrade payers and producers, payment must be made according to international customary conditions, and no later than 15 days after the receipt of the documents transferring ownership.