



Market Garden Britain Certification Scheme

Market Garden Britain certifies small-scale market gardens and community projects that often cannot afford organic certification. Market Garden Britain aims to address food poverty, obesity, unemployment, end of cheap oil and climate change through every community in the UK having access to its own sustainable vegetable farm or market garden. The aims and methods are set out in its report "Market Garden Britain 2030". The Market Garden Britain website provides training resources and a directory of market gardeners and growers who are trying to make their vision a reality.



- The Market Garden Britain Certification Scheme operates outside the EU organic labelling regulations so its growers call themselves "agroecological growers".
- Growers also make low-carbon commitments ranging from Bronze to Gold. The Gold Award is for growers who show that it "is possible to feed people without fossil fuels and with social justice, health and biodiversity in mind".

- Market Garden Britain operates a participatory Certification Scheme whereby growers inspect and support one another towards best practice.
- Participatory certification is recognised by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM).
- To be certified to agroecological growing standards, growers need to follow agroecological growing practices that are evidenced either by being:
 - (1) Third party organic certified
 OR
 - (2) Compliant with the IFOAM Norms

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For further information please contact Horticulture Wales. Disclaimer: Every effort is made to ensure the information provided in this information sheet is correct at time of printing. Horticulture Wales cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of its content and links to further information sources from this document.





What sectors of horticulture is the scheme suitable for?

- The scheme is for all market gardeners who are primary producers of vegetables, fruit, nuts or wholefoods for direct human consumption
- Urban sites or brownfield sites are eligible but must undertake a soil contamination test if full land use history cannot be shown.

Growers who wish to join the scheme must

- Keep annual accounts for tax purposes
- Observe agroecological growing practices
- Be prepared to make low-carbon commitments
- Be prepared to show another grower around their holding, be inspected by them, and show a pre-arranged selection of receipts and invoices (also known as farmer-to-farmer inspection).

Costs of participation

- The scheme costs £35 per year, plus bearing the cost of travel to another market garden to inspect them.

Prices stated are correct at time of going to press – please check for current prices in case of changes

System of assessment or inspection

- Participatory certification
- The growers inspect one another
- In the same year, growers do not inspect the same grower as they are inspected by. Exceptions may be made when growers are a distance from one another
- Market Garden Britain reserves the right to nominate a suitable non-commercial grower to inspect if there is no alternative. Their credentials will be displayed online.

Additional inspections

- Market Garden Britain can also add optional inspections e.g. Stockfree Certified.

Further information

Application forms are available on the Market Garden Britain website:

<http://www.marketgardenbritain.org/content/forms>

For details of other quality assurance schemes and British standards please contact Horticulture Wales.

www.horticulturewales.co.uk