

Tesco Nature's Choice

An Example of a Private Scheme

Stephen Cox
Produce Director, CMI Certification

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice

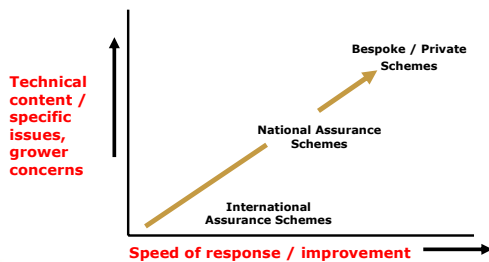
- **Private Standard based on EN45011 concept but applies the principles of Continuous Improvement**
- **Scheme administration and certification controlled by CMI Certification**
- **Scope: all fresh produce supplied to Tesco UK**
- **Evolution:**
 - Start-up UK: 1993
 - Start-up Spain: 1999
 - Rest of the world: 2004

25 June 2007



Standards: Change and focus

Tesco Nature's Choice is a communication tool, able to respond efficiently and rapidly to producer issues and anticipate and communicate legislation issues & concerns back to producers via the supply chain



25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice: Key elements

- **Three possible levels of attainment by the farm awarded after completion of the audit process:**
 - Gold
 - Silver
 - Bronze
- **Continuous Improvement is a key principle based on an annual percentage audit score**

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice: Statistics

- **Worldwide farm membership: 11,400**
- **Number of countries: 66**
- **Number of approved auditing companies: 28**
- **Approved auditors world-wide: 204**

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice: Drivers

- **Customer food safety concerns and expectations**
- **UK legislation - Due Diligence**
- **Demonstration of Corporate Social Responsibility**
- **Harmonisation of farm operating practices in the global fresh produce supply chain**
- **Facilitates the establishment of a level playing field for all producers**

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice: Certification model

- **Audit process designed to fit with EurepGAP to minimise cost to producer**

Certification model	Farm audit cost index
Option 1: single farms	
Annual audit of each farm	100
Option 2: farming groups	
Annual Quality Management Systems audit plus sample of farm audits	
Cooperative with 50+ members	Est. 10-15
Cooperative with 100 small subsistence farmer members	Est. 2-4

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice: Key elements

Technical content of the protocol is contained in 238 control points:

- Rational use of plant protection products
- Rational use of fertilisers & organic matter
- Pollution prevention
- Protection of human health
- Efficient use of energy, water & other natural resources
- Recycling and Re-use of materials
- Wildlife & landscape conservation and improvement

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice: Key elements

- **Customised Plant Protection Product List (PPPL) review process to ensure that all Nature's Choice producers have prior warning to and can manage challenges of changing UK & EU legislation**
- **Special consideration in the audit process for subsistence farmers in developing countries**
- **Trained Auditors with local technical crop knowledge and language wherever possible**
- **Centralised quality control procedures to maximise scheme integrity and technical consistency**

25 June 2007



Tesco Nature's Choice



25 June 2007

