

Food Safety Standards Compared (Aug 2022)

Among the major food safety management system standards (FSMS), there are small but significant variations between food fraud prevention requirements. Key differences include whether finished products or ingredients are to be assessed, which types of food fraud must be included and the presence/absence of requirements related to horizon scanning and training.

	AIB*	BRC (Issue 9)*	FSSC*	GlobalGAP*	IFS*	SQF*
Food types to include in food fraud prevention activities	Ingredients (implied)	Raw materials	Products and processes	Unclear	Raw materials, Ingredients, Packaging, outsourced processes	Raw materials, Ingredients, finished products
Food fraud types	Economically motivated adulteration (only)	Adulteration, substitution (only)	Any type where consumer health is at risk (in definition, Appendix A)	Unclear, however counterfeit or non-foodgrade packaging or propagation materials are included as examples	Substitution, mislabelling, adulteration, counterfeiting	Substitution, mislabelling, dilution, counterfeiting
Vulnerability assessments explicitly required?	A food fraud risk assessment is listed in Appendix A	Yes	Yes	Risk assessment	Yes	Implied (Edition 9)
Mitigation plan required?	-	Mitigation activities are to be included in the vulnerability assessment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does packaging need to be included in the vulnerability assessment?	Yes (implied)	Yes (see 3.5.1.1)	Yes (as per food fraud definition, Appendix A)	Yes	Yes	Implied (primary packaging is a 'raw material')

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Is a separate food fraud procedure explicitly required?	-	-	Yes	-	Implied (“responsibilities shall be defined”)	Implied (“methods and responsibilities shall be documented”)
Is training in food fraud explicitly mentioned?	-	“Knowledge” is required (Clause 5.4.1)	-	-	Yes (Clause 3.3.4)	Yes
Is an annual review explicitly mentioned?	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes
Other	-	Horizon scanning for developing threats must be done (Clause 5.4.1)	-	-	Criteria for vulnerability assessments must be defined (4.20.2)	Food safety risks from food fraud must be specified (2.7.2.2)

* The full names of the standards are:

AIB International Consolidated Standards for Inspection of Prerequisite and Food Safety Programs, 2023

BRCGS Global Standard Food Safety, Issue 9

FSSC 22000, Version 5.1

GlobalG.A.P. Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA), Version 5.4-1

IFS Food, Version 7

SQF Food Safety Code, Edition 9