

Certification Evaluation Report

Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials

Associação de Fornecedores de Cana de Guariba - Socicana

SCS Certificate Code- SCS-RSB/PC-0027

Rua José Mazzi, 1450 • Vila Garavello • CEP: 14840-000 • Guariba - SP Brazil

Cristiane Regina de Simone

www.socicana.com.br

CERTIFIED	EXPIRATION
October 21, 2016	October 20, 2021

DATE OF FIELD AUDIT
September 13 to 15, 2016
DATE OF LAST UPDATE
October 21, 2016

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FOREWORD

SCS Global Services (SCS) is a certification body accredited by the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) to conduct evaluations of biofuel operators. Under the RSB/SCS certification system, participating operators meeting international standards of biofuel production can be certified as “sustainable,” thereby permitting the Operator’s use of the RSB endorsement and logo in the marketplace subject to regular RSB/SCS oversight.

SCS deploys interdisciplinary teams of natural resource specialists and other experts all over the world to conduct evaluations of biofuel operations. SCS evaluation teams collect and analyze written materials, conduct interviews with Participating Operator’s staff and key stakeholders, and complete field and office audits of the operation(s) identified in the certification scope. Upon completion of the fact-finding phase of all evaluations, SCS teams determine compliance to the RSB Principles and Criteria.

Please Note: An RSB certificate itself does not constitute evidence that a particular product supplied by the certificate holder is certified to RSB standards. Products offered, shipped or sold by the certificate holder can only be considered covered by the scope of this certificate when the required RSB claim is clearly stated on-product. For more information about the RSB, visit their website at www.rsb.org.

Organization of the Report

This report of the results of our evaluation is divided into two sections. Section A provides the public summary and background information that is required by the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials. This section is made available to the general public and is intended to provide an overview of the evaluation process, the management programs, and policies applied to the Participating Operator, and the results of the evaluation. Section A will be posted on the RSB Participating Operators Database (<http://rsb.org/certification/participating-operators/>). Section B contains more detailed results and information for use by the Participating Operator.

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SECTION A – PUBLIC SUMMARY

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Operator Information

1.1.1 Name and Contact Information

Organization name	Associação de Fornecedores de Cana de Guariba - Socicana		
Operator Number	1502		
Contact person	Cristiane Regina de Simone		
Address	Rua José Mazzi, 1450 • Vila Garavello • CEP: 14840-000 • Guariba - SP Brazil	Telephone	+55 16 3251-9270
		Fax	
		e-mail	crsimone@socicana.com.br
		Website	www.socicana.com.br

1.2 Scope of Certificate

Please choose one:	<input type="checkbox"/> RSB EU RED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RSB Global
The scope assessment agrees with the scope under which the operator applied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If no, please explain:		
<i>Note: If the scope is different, please contact SCS.</i>		

SITE INFORMATION FOR AGRICULTURAL SITES OR FEEDSTOCK PRODUCTION SITES	
Site Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Biomass Production <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Feedstock Produced:	Sugar cane
Current Land Use	Prior Land Use
<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass Production	<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass Production
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Current Employment on Site	Prior Employment on Site
<input type="checkbox"/> Negligible	<input type="checkbox"/> Negligible
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Average	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Average
<input type="checkbox"/> Above Local Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Local Average

<input type="checkbox"/> Full		<input type="checkbox"/> Full			
Total workers covered by scope of certification:		None worker is hired. A total of 17 small farmers (family farm associated with Socicana).			
Owned/Controlled By:		The 17 small farmers listed below.			
Location/City:		Taquaritinga – Sao Paulo, Brazil			
Total farms included in certification scope		11 (listed below)			
Geographic location:	Farm/Entity	Farmer	Location (Latitude S) (Longitude W)	Area (ha)	Area Planted (ha)
	Sítio São José /	Agenor Bracciali	21.44662289 48.56825793	41.10	38,19
	Sítio São Pedro	Jose Luis Bracciali	21.45045638 48.57318732	41.10	38,19
	Fazenda Santa Lourdes	Antonio Luiz N. de Mattos Barretto	21.17339099 48 31.4312040	99.00	65,41
	Fazenda da Glória	Luiz Ricardo F. de Mattos Barretto	21.17339099 48 31.4312040	83.32	39,45
	Sítio São José	Edson Tadeu Rizzo	21° 27" 37' 48° 30" 38	13.31	12,10
	Fazenda Santa Cruz	Eduardo Jose Ramalho	21.34847896 48.42522267	41.60	29,04
		Maria de Fátima C. Ramalho		41.60	29,04
		Roberto Tadeu Ramalho		41.60	29,04
	Fazenda Sto Antonio	Laerte Stefano (Israel Stefano)	21.3744918 48.67303582	48.40	43,56
	Sto Antonio II	Jose Erminio Gibertoni	21.46194914 48.57578314	20.00	20,00
		Jorge Erminio Gibertoni		20.00	20,00
	São João I	Jose Wagner Carqui	21.48744462 48.49586128	20.57	15,00
		Paulo Sergio Caparelli		20.57	15,00

	São Sebastião	Mario Morita	21.33910442	12.10	8,47
		Edgar Morita	48.47136319	12.10	8,47
	São João / Coqueiral	Marisa Terezinha S. Borsetti	21° 34' 32'' 48° 28' 53''	48.40	27,83
		Durvalina Thome Sichieri		48.40	27,83
Total Area (ha)	653.17				
Total Planted Area (ha)	466.62				
Total area set aside for conservation purposes (ha)	131.0 (About 20% of the farmland must be set aside for conservation purposes).				
Annual Feedstock Production Volume (please specify unit of measurement)	42,000 metric tons				
Amount sold as RSB certified in last calendar year (tons)	None				

1.3 Standards Used

1.3.1 Applicable RSB-Accredited Standards

Title	Version	Date of Finalization
RSB P&Cs for Smallholder Groups (RSB-STD-03-001)	1.0	April 29, 2015
RSB Standard for Certification of Smallholder Groups (RSB-STD-03-002)	1.1	April 29, 2015
RSB Standard for Risk Management (RSB-STD-60-001 V 3.0)	3.0	May 28, 2014
RSB GHG Calculation Methodology (RSB-STD-01-003-01)	2.1	December 07, 2012
RSB Standard for Traceability (Chain of Custody) (RSB-STD-20-001)	3.1	September 23, 2014
All standards employed are available on the websites of the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (http://rsb.org/sustainability/rsb-sustainability-standards/). Standards are also available, upon request, from SCS Global Services (http://www.scsglobalservices.com/).		

2.0 EVALUATION PLANNING & PROCESS

2.1 Documentation Submitted by Operator

Document	Comments
RSB Application	Operator Number: 1502 Application data: 07/04/2016
RSB Self Risk Assessment	SUBMISSION #578 (13/09/2016) Total Risk Score: 4 Risk Class: Low
Clearance certificates of Debts: Federal, State & Municipality	See details in the checklist in Principle 1. Certificate of the FGTS-CRF validity period: 9/7/2016 to 10/6/2016; Municipal certificate N° 3662/2016, city of Guariba, State of São Paulo in Brazil. Validity: 10/13/2016. Certificate of Debts relating to federal taxes and Union's Active-internal revenue service of Brazil. Valid until 11/20/2016.
Internal Management System – IMS (Manual de Normativas do SIG – Sistema Interno de Gestão – CP.CS.0003).	This IMS procedure follows the RSB Standard for Certification of Smallholder Groups [RSB-STD-03-002 (Version 1.1)]
Letter of commitment for the associated producer to participate in the certification process RSB or equivalent.	Presented 17 letters of commitment for each one of associated producer included in the scope of RSB Certification.
Rural Environmental Management Plan (Plano de Gestão Ambiental Rural – PGAR).	Equivalent to the Environment and Social Management Plan – ESMP (September, 2016).
Normative Management Manual / Manual of Member Group (Manual de Normativas de Gestão do Grupo / Manual dos Membros do Grupo CP.CS.0004)	(Revision 0.0), emission on 25/05/2016.
Bylaws of the Guariba Association of Suppliers of Cane – Socicana (Estatuto Social da Associação dos Fornecedores de Cana de Guariba – Socicana)	Registered on 07/May/2010.
Mass balance / GHG emissions	Used RSB default value of 14 g CO ₂ (eq) / MJ
Stakeholders List	Listed 16 Entities & people

2.2 Audit Type and Determination

The following table summarizes the audit types for RSB Audits:

	Low risk class	Medium risk class	High risk class
Certificate validity	5 years	3 years (pending successful surveillance audit)	2 year
Main audit	Every 5 years	Every 3 years	Every 2 years
Surveillance audit	Annual	Annual	Annual

2.3 Audit Team

2.3.1 Determination of Audit Team

- Desk audits shall always be conducted by at minimum one (1) international lead auditor. The lead auditor appointed may include additional auditors and/or technical experts in the audit team if this is required by the extent of the audit.
- Field audits shall always be led by one (1) international lead auditor.
- The lead auditor appointed shall include at minimum one (1) local auditor in the audit team. The lead auditor appointed may include additional auditors and/or technical experts in the audit team if this is required by the extent of the audit.
- For field audits of participating operators in High Risk class shall always the lead auditor appointed shall appoint at minimum
 - one (1) local auditor and
 - one (1) technical expert on social issues to evaluate compliance with social requirements and the risk of non-compliance due to social issues and
 - one (1) technical expert on environmental issues to evaluate compliance with environmental requirements and the risk of non-compliance due to environmental issues.
 - The lead auditor appointed may include additional auditors and/or technical experts in the audit team if this is required by the extent of the audit.

2.3.2 Audit Team

Auditor Name:	Luciano Lisboa Junior	Auditor role:	Lead Auditor
Qualifications:			
Luciano Lisboa Junior is an auditor and consultant to the forest and agriculture products industry. He is also a lead auditor for the SCS Biofuels program and had conducted audits in Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB) both as national and international lead auditor. He is also certified as lead auditor in the Bonsucro and International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC) schemes. Luciano has a Bachelor’s Degree in Agronomy from “LUIZ DE QUEIRÓZ,” University of São Paulo and a Doctorate in Forestry from North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC, USA. Mr. Lisboa has been conducting assessments for SCS since 2010.			

2.4 Evaluation Schedule and Extent of Audit

2.4.1 Determination of Extent of Audit

Total number of subsidiaries, branch offices, affiliated entities, external third parties contracted or otherwise engaged, operational structures, sites, facilities, processing and production units, and supply chain structures	17 small farmers (sugarcane producers)
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Participating Operator Risk Class	Low (risk score = 4)
Disputes or prior Non-compliances	None
Changes in scope since last evaluation	None
Total number of compliance claims	None

2.4.2 Evaluation Itinerary and Activities

Time	Element/Activity	Personnel Involved
Sep. 13, 2016 Tuesday	Guariba, SP (Socicana office)	
8:00 - 9:30	Opening Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to certification program and assessment process to on-site staff - Review of RSB Procedures; confirm roles, responsibilities and processes; - Confirmation of scope (farmers group). 	Management and Socicana Associates
9:30 – 12:30	Document Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of scheduled activities: sampling four farms for inspections; - Review of Socicana’s RSB Application and RSB Standard for Risk Management (RSB-STD-60-001 V3.0); - Review of Clearance Certificates of Debts: Federal, State & Municipality; - Sampled Farmers Commitment Letter for participating in RSB certification process; - Verifying the Proof of no conversion in the farms selected for inspection. 	Socicana Management Staff
13:30 – 18:00	Document Review and Worker Interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational procedures, quality and production controls; - Evaluation of P&C: P1 and P2. 	Management, Representative for HR and Workers
17:50 – 18:05	Public Consultation – WWF Brazil	Representative for WWF Brazil
19:00 – 24:00	- Evaluation of RSB Standard for Certification of Smallholder Groups (RSB-STD-03-002);	Lead Auditor
Sep. 14, 2016 Wednesday	Taquaritinga, SP (Farms inspection – in the morning) Guariba, SP (Socicana office – afternoon)	

7:00 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspection of four associated farms (Sítios São José e São Pedro; Fazenda Santa Cruz e São João / Coqueiral); - Verification of cane plantation conditions, roads and soil conservation; - Observe chemical storage and disposal; - Review of land use rights documents (P12); - Observe environmental conservation areas; - Interviews with farmers and workers. 	Farmers associated and workers;
13:30 – 18:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of RSB P&Cs for Smallholder Groups (RSB-STD-03-001): P3 to P7 	Socicana staff
19:00 – 23:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of RSB P&Cs for Smallholder Groups (RSB-STD-03-001): P8 to P11 	Lead Auditor
Sep. 15, 2016 Thursday	Guariba, SP (Socicana office)	
8:00 – 9:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of some pending issues related to P4. - Consolidation of notes and confirm audit findings; 	Socicana Management Staff
9:40 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation for the closing meeting 	
10:30 – 10:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Consultation – Rural Workers Union of Taquaritinga (STTR Taquaritinga) 	Representative for STTR Taquaritinga
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Closing Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of General audit finding - Presentation of all non-compliances and opportunities for improvement - Next steps: corrective actions / final report 	Management and Socicana Associates

2.5 Evaluation of Management System

2.5.1 Methodology and Strategies Employed

SCS deploys interdisciplinary teams with expertise in agriculture, ecology, forestry, social sciences, natural resource economics, and other relevant fields to assess an Operator’s compliance to RSB standards and policies. Evaluation methods include document and record review, implementing sampling strategies to visit a broad number of site and facility types, observation of implementation of management plans and policies, and stakeholder analysis. When there is more than one team member, team members may

review parts of the standards based on their background and expertise. On the final day of an evaluation, team members convene to deliberate the findings of the assessment jointly. This involves an analysis of all relevant site observations, stakeholder comments, and reviewed documents and records. Where consensus between team members cannot be achieved due to lack of evidence, conflicting evidence or differences of interpretation of the standards, the team is instructed to report these in the certification decision section.

At beginning of audit, it was planned to sample, at minimum, the equivalent of the square root of the total number of farms (11). Thus, four farms were sampled for inspection.

2.5.2 Capacity of the participating operator to implement its management systems

The Association of Suppliers of cane Guariba – Socicana is a non-profit civil society, founded on February 15, 1951. The entity is headquartered in Guariba, Sao Paulo State, Brazil, and constitutes a representative body of the sugar cane producer class. Its work focuses on a radius of 100 kilometers from the headquarters, where there are 1,743 active members.

Besides this association, there are two other branches associated with Socicana:

- COPLANA – Agroindustrial Cooperative for selling chemicals (fertilizer and agrochemicals – pesticides, herbicides and fungicides) and providing technical assistance for applying these chemicals and,
- Coopcredi which provides a financial credit to associated producers.

In order to assist the associated producers, Socicana has a Technical Department and a Legal Department. These departments provide the following sustainability services to the associated producers:

Social:

- Support for elaboration of Program of Medical Control of Occupational Health (PCMSO) and Environmental risk prevention program (PPRA);
- Assistance in analysis of Agribusiness Contracts;
- Legal assistance on Land property and Labor issues.

Environmental

- APPLY RIGHT (Aplique certo): improve the result of applying pesticides to avoid waste and reduce environmental impacts;
- Environmental Advice regarding fires in sugarcane fields;
- Guidance and preparation of the Rural Environmental Register (Cadastro Ambiental Rural - CAR)
- Elaboration of Burning Elimination Program (PEQ);
- Elaboration of Green Ethanol-Environmental Protocol.

Economics

- QUALIPLANT: Service offered to associate producer to ensure the quality of the planting of sugar cane. Tools are made available to monitor their agricultural practices and improve the quality and productivity of its sugarcane plantation;

- Evaluation of losses in mechanized harvesting: Socicana measures the harvesting losses and makes recommendations to avoid them;
- Monitoring analysis of TRS - total recoverable sugar (ATR) in the mills;
- Online monitoring (on track) TRS delivered to the mill;
- Guidance on costs of sugarcane culture.

Combined Subjects

- Lectures and training such as those listed in: <http://socicana.com.br/downloads/>
- Orientation and implementation of socio-environmental certification;
- Monitoring of new technologies for innovation and knowledge transfer.

Targeting improvements in the management of rural property, Socicana is working in three large sustainability projects. There are various initiatives, occurring simultaneously, aimed to promote the technical and managing assistance to the associated producer, such as:

- Farm inspections made by specialist workshops on agricultural costs management in partnership with the University of Sao Paulo State - Unesp of Jaboticabal, Datagro and Pecege research (Pecege - Programa de Educação Continuada em Economia e Gestão de Empresas);
- Basic workshops to fill field notebook (costs) by Socicana;
- Specialists in addition to legal panels about NR 31, NR 12, Labor law, CAR, water resource management, among other issues.

Focusing the sustainability process, Socicana maintains a compendium of legislation that applies to farmers who seek RSB certification, available on the website:

<http://socicana.com.br/2.0/wp-content/uploads/Leis-Aplicadas-a-produtores-Rurais-Certifica%C3%A7%C3%B5es-OK.pdf>

In attendance to certifications requirements, the Socicana in partnership with the RSB launched the Sustainable Sugarcane Program - SSP, consisting of the following goals:

- Identify needs and opportunities in the context of the small producer in Brazil;
- Promote better management of rural properties, with focus on economic, social and environmental sustainability
- Identify partnerships for the small producer participation in sustainable production chains
- Recognize, by means of RSB certification, good practices carried out by the small producers.

For the implementation of this program, using expert advice, the Socicana team carried out a diagnosis on properties of integrated producers in the program. Non-conformities have been identified and corrective action plans were established. All small farms had full support for the implementation of good practices in the management of their farms.

Finally, in sustainability-related initiatives, Socicana created a communication channel aimed at transparency in its actions and a willingness to listen to all interested parties: those in the community, partner companies, unions, members, municipalities, social-environmental responsibility organs and non-governmental organizations. Now it is possible to achieve improvements in the feedstock and new partners in the projects.

2.5.3 Evaluation of RSB compliance claims and use of RSB trademarks

Type (compliance claim, trademark use)	Description	Findings
Not used yet.		

2.6 Stakeholder Consultation Process

In accordance with SCS and RSB protocols, consultation with key stakeholders is an integral component of the evaluation process. Stakeholder consultation takes place prior to, concurrent with, and following field evaluations. The primary purpose of such consultation is to solicit input from affected parties as to the strengths and weaknesses of the Participating Operator’s management system and operations, relative to the standard, and the nature of the interaction between the company and the surrounding communities.

Principal stakeholder groups are identified based upon the certification scope of the participating operator.

Stakeholder consultation activities are organized according to the requirements of the RSB. The table below summarizes the major comments received from stakeholders and the assessment team’s response. Where a stakeholder comment has triggered a subsequent investigation during the evaluation, the corresponding follow-up action and conclusions from SCS are noted below.

2.6.1 Summary of Stakeholder Comments and Responses from the Team, Where Applicable

Stakeholder Comments	SCS Response
Economic Concerns	
None	
Social Concerns	
None	
Environmental Concerns	
None	

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT RESULTS

SCS Risk Assessment Results	Deviations from Operator Risk Assessment Results	Risk Factor Difference
Score = 4	Score = 4	0

Due to the results of the Risk Assessment, the evaluation did not need to be rescheduled.

4.0 RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION

4.1 Process of Determining Compliance

4.1.1 Structure of Standard and Degrees of Non-Compliance

RSB-accredited biofuel standards consist of a three-level hierarchy: the principle, the criteria that correspond to that principle, and then the performance indicators that elaborate upon each criterion. Consistent with SCS Sustainable Biofuels Program evaluation protocols, the team collectively determines whether or not the subject operation is in compliance with every applicable indicator of the relevant sustainable biofuel standard. Each non-compliance must be evaluated to determine whether it constitutes a major or minor non-compliance at the level of the associated criterion or sub-criterion. Not all indicators are equally important, and there is no simple numerical formula to determine whether an operation is in non-compliance. The team therefore must use their collective judgment to assess each criterion and determine if the Operator is in compliance. If the Operator is determined to be in non-compliance at the criterion level, then at least one of the applicable indicators must be in major non-compliance.

4.1.2 Interpretations of Major and Minor Non-compliances

Major Non-compliances, either alone or in combination with non-compliances of other applicable indicators, result (or are likely to result) in a fundamental failure to achieve the objectives of the relevant RSB Criterion. These non-compliances must be resolved or closed out before a certificate can be awarded. If Major NCs arise after an operation is certified, the timeframe for correcting these non-compliances is typically no more than three months. Certification is contingent on the certified FME’s response to the NCs within the stipulated time frame.

Minor Non-compliances are typically limited in scale or can be characterized as an unusual lapse in the system. Most minor NCs are the result of a non-conformance at the indicator-level. Non-compliances must be closed out within a specified time period of award of the certificate.

4.1.3 Major Non-compliances

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No major NCs were issued to the Operator during the evaluation. Any minor CARs from previous surveillance audits have been reviewed and closed prior to the issuance of a certificate.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major NCs were issued to the Operator during the evaluation, which have all been closed to the satisfaction of the audit team and meet the requirements of the standards. Any minor CARs from previous surveillance audits have been reviewed and closed prior to the issuance of a certificate.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major NCs were issued to the Operator during the evaluation and the Operator has not yet satisfactorily closed all major NCs.

4.1.4 Non-compliances and Current Status

Summary of Non-compliances and Current Status				
Non-compliance Number	Type of Non-compliance	Relevant RSB Standard & Indicator No.	Summary of Finding and Evidence Collected	Status of Non-compliance (Open/Closed)
2016 – 01	OFI	RSB-STD-03-001 C4.e.i	<p>The Group of producers are oriented about the need for collecting the Social Security dues (Instituto Nacional de Seguro Social- INSS) and having receipts of payment for eventual services provided by rural workers.</p> <p>However, there is no follow-up mechanism for such payments. Thus, Socicana might consider the possibility of incorporating in the field book an item for the control of payments via RPA and its collection of INSS dues.</p>	Open
2016 – 02	OFI	RSB-STD-03-001 C11.b vi	<p>In inspections in the chemical deposits it was observed that there are opportunities for improvement in the facilities and storage of products. So, Socicana might consider the possibility of improvements on the deposits of chemicals, including pesticides and fuel, regarding technical and legal standards required.</p>	Open
2016 – 03	OFI	RSB-STD-03-002 2.2.3	<p>In the Term of Commitment of adherence to the Program Sustainable Cane indicates in its “section G” "the producer will receive and attend SOCICANA and RSB technicians”. Even though it is implied that Socicana and RSB are received for conducting these inspections, it would be only internal, since the certifier would do the external audits. So, Socicana could clarify the rules, to indicate that the group member must accept the realization of both internal and external inspections.</p>	Open
2016 – 04	NC – Minor	RSB-STD-03-002	<p>There is no evidence in the rules of group, that the producer group has an</p>	Open

		2.2.4	obligation to report the occurrence of non-conformances, both intentional and unintentional.	
2016 – 05	OFI	RSB-STD-03-002 4.3	The item 6.11 of the standard “Group Management” indicates that “the calendar is the responsibility of the specialist or technical sector”. However, there is no guides that this calendar should prioritize the farms that have a greater risk of NC occurrence. Thus, the standard of management of the group might clarify that in scheduling internal inspections, members with a high risk of non-compliance should also prioritized.	Open
2016 – 06	NC – Minor	RSB-STD-03-002 4.4	There is no evidence in the Group Standard guidance for the stipulation that internal inspectors shall be independent and free of any conflict of interest vis-à-vis the group management or group members.	Open
2016 – 07	OFI	RSB-STD-03-002 7.3	Consider adding the following requirement to protocol documents: when production estimates strongly differ from the previous year’s figures, group members shall justify (explain) the changes in production estimates to group management.	Open

5.0 CERTIFICATION DECISION

Certification Recommendation	
Operator to be awarded RSB certification subject to the minor non-compliances stated in Section 4.1.4.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
The SCS evaluation team makes the above recommendation for certification based on the full and proper execution of the SCS Responsible Biofuels Program evaluation protocols. If certification is recommended, the Operator has satisfactorily demonstrated the following without exception:	
Operator has addressed any Major NC(s) assigned during the evaluation.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Operator has demonstrated that their system of management is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standards are met over the sites and facilities covered by the scope of the evaluation.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Operator has demonstrated that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the sites and facilities covered by the scope of the certificate.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Comments and/or details of any issue which was difficult and/or impossible to evaluate:		
To be completed by Certification Decision-Making Entity	Certification decision by:	Neil Mendenhall
	Date of decision: For initial or continued certification	October 21, 2016
	Surveillance schedule:	Annual Surveillance Notes:

Sub Certificate Codes (if applicable)

Legal Entity/Operational Site	Sub-Certificate Code