

IFIA Agricultural Committee

Bulletin: 12- 02

Subject: “Certification of Sound, Loyal and Merchantable (SLM)”

IFIA members are sometimes asked to certify that certain goods are “Sound, Loyal and Merchantable”. This term, which has been in existence for many years, is trade specific terminology without an agreed definition.

Due to this lack of an accepted definition, IFIA members would like to advise that, unless instructed otherwise, when required to designate goods as ‘SLM’ they will issue such certificates following a process which will consist solely of organoleptically checking that the samples drawn during their interventions are of a typical aspect, free from uncharacteristic smell and with no live pests detectable by the naked eye.

For IFIA members, a certification of SLM refers only to the condition of the goods as ascertained at the time and place of inspection on samples drawn during the inspection.

The commercial contract between sellers and buyers may entail guarantees, and other obligations, that are the responsibility of the respective transacting parties and outside the scope of an inspection company’s involvement. SLM certification, as described above, does not assume nor abrogate any obligations of any party to any transaction.

Revisions

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