



*The voice of the herbal products industry*

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## **Good Agricultural, Collection and Manufacturing Practices for Botanical Ingredients**

Ensuring the continued availability of high-quality herbal ingredients in an increasingly complex global supply chain is a top priority for members of the American Herbal Products Association (AHPA). To ensure the quality of botanical raw materials used in consumer products, AHPA developed free industry guidance and assessment tools to help every step of the supply chain confirm herbal ingredients are accurately identified, free from unwanted contaminants, and fully conform to all quality characteristics for which they are represented.

The guidance provides small and large-scale growers, harvesters, and processors with a flexible template to establish standard operating procedures for every level in the supply chain. The guidance and accompanying assessment program provide comprehensive best practices for every step that could impact the quality and cleanliness of herbal ingredients.

AHPA members are using these best practices and assessment tools in an effort to establish and document industry-wide practices at every step of the herbal ingredient supply chain.

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### **Background:**

Agricultural and collection practices have wide-ranging impacts on product quality, native and regional communities, and the environment and AHPA members have long supported the need for best practices to be clearly described and documented. This guidance is intended to complement the empirical knowledge that has been passed down from preceding generations involved in the cultivation, wild collection, and processing of useful plants. The document is an update to and extension of a similar document initially issued jointly in 2006 by AHPA and the American Herbal Pharmacopoeia.

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### **More information:**

View and download this guidance:

[ahpa.org/Resources/GoodAgriculturalandCollectionPractices\(GACP\).aspx](http://ahpa.org/Resources/GoodAgriculturalandCollectionPractices(GACP).aspx)