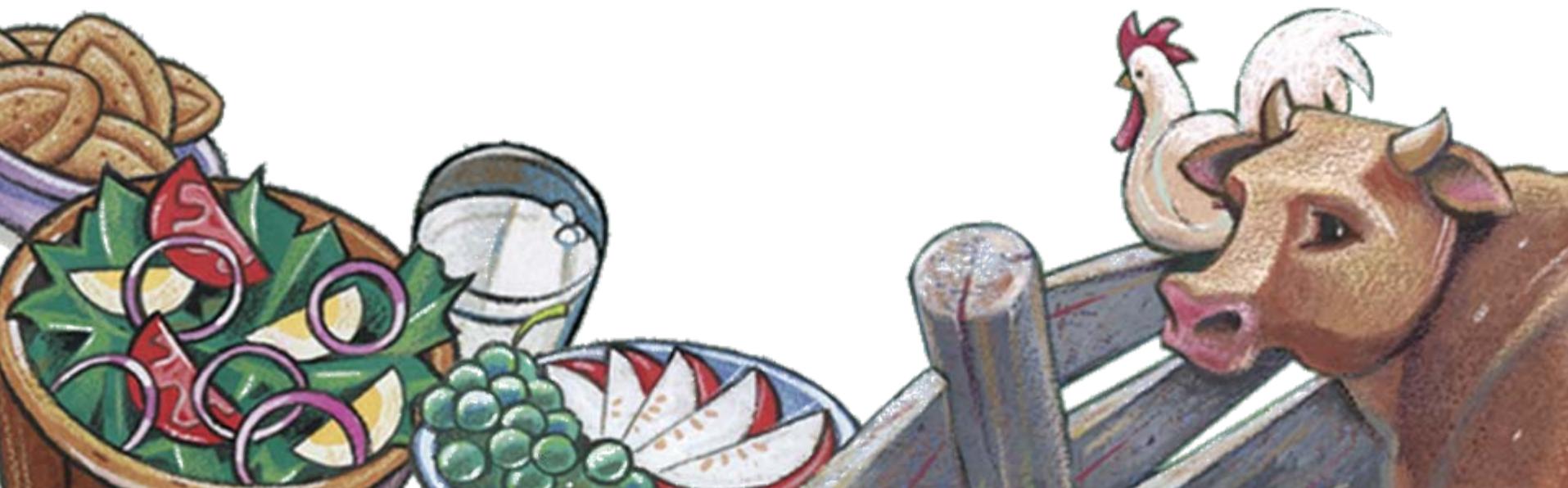




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CFIA: Program Import Requirements





Food Safety & Labelling

- The Food and Drugs Act and Regulations (FDA & R), and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations (CPLA & R) place the legal responsibility on the importer to ensure that the imported product conforms to all requirements of these Acts and Regulations. For example:
- **FDA section 4** indicates “No person shall sell an article of food that...” is not safe for human consumption.
- **FDA section 5.** (1) No person shall label, package, treat, process, sell or advertise any food in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its character, value, quantity, composition, merit or safety.



Food Safety & Labelling

- **FDA section 6** indicates that “**no person shall import..., label, package, sell or advertise**” any Food article “**unless the article complies with the prescribed standard.**”
- **Section A.01.044** of the Food & Drug Regulations (FDR) states: “Subject to section A.01.044, **no person shall import into Canada for sale a food...which in Canada would constitute a violation** of the Act or these Regulations. SOR/92-626, s. 2(F).”



Food Safety & Labelling

The CFIA has provided some helpful tools for Food importers. These can be found on the CFIA Imports webpage or by using these links:

1. “Guide to Importing Foods Commercially (GIFC)”

http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/publications/com_import/toc_e.shtml

2. “Good Importing Practices (GIP’s)”

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/inform/impprae.shtml>

- GIFC section C outlines the overall responsibility of the importer to ensure that products imported into Canada comply with all Canadian requirements.
- GIFC section D has links to Health & Safety, Labelling, additives etc. to



Labelling

- **Labelling is the importer's responsibility.** Section **B.01.401.** (1) of the FDR clarifies this: “Except as otherwise provided in this section and sections B.01.402 to B.01.406 and B.01.467, the label of a pre packaged product shall carry a nutrition facts table....”
- The “Guide to Food Labelling and Advertising” contains a wide range of information. Example:
Basic labelling, Nutritional labelling, Nutrient Content Claims etc.

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/guide/toce.shtml>



Imported Prepackaged food is regulated under:

- *Meat Inspection Act* and Regulations
- *Food and Drugs Act* and Regulations
- *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act* and Regulations
- *Canada Agricultural Products Act* and Regulations



Packaging & Labeling requirements

- The CBSA assists the CFIA through the detection and notification of possible infractions (ex: foods containing undeclared meat, lacking both official languages).
- information labels must be true, not misleading, legible, and clearly displayed.
- composition, and net quantity requirements
- the name and address of the responsible party



Packaging and Labeling requirements

- Common name
- Durable Life Date
- All mandatory information on food labels must be shown in both official languages, i.e., French and English
- US Nutrition facts aren't permitted.



Nutrition Labelling

- The Nutrition Facts table, consisting of the declaration of energy (Calories) and 13 nutrients became **mandatory** for most **prepackaged foods** beginning December 12, 2005.
- For small manufacturers (ie: gross revenues from food sales in Canada < \$1,000,000 in the 12-month period prior to December 12, 2002) the transition period is five years.
- Until the Nutrition Facts table becomes mandatory, products may comply either with the new nutrition labelling regulations or with the previous regulations.



Nutrition Labelling

- The old **Nutrition Labelling** guidelines can no longer be used by any small company at the end of the transition period on December 12, 2007.

The new guide may be found @:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/guide/ch5e.shtml#5.2>

or

the CFIA “Import” page link to “Guide to Importing Foods Commercially” and the clicking on the Labelling link under Section D.



Meat & Meat Products

- Before the CFIA reviews a Foreign Establishment for potential approval for Food Safety purposes, the country's Animal Disease status is considered.
- **DESIGNATED COUNTRIES:**
Designated means a country must be free of the following diseases depending on which species the meat is derived from (fresh or processed meat):
Ovine and Caprine: BSE and foot-and-mouth disease
Bovine: foot-and-mouth disease
Porcine: foot-and-mouth disease, swine vesicular disease, classical swine fever and African swine fever.
Avian: Newcastle and Highly pathogenic avian influenza



Meat & Meat Products

- Once an establishment is approved, each shipment must be accompanied by an **OFFICIAL MEAT INSPECTION CERTIFICATE (OMIC)** and various pieces of information.

Note: The OMIC satisfies the Animal Health Division requirements if imported from a designated country (fresh or processed meat) and meat products which are hermetically sealed. For samples less than 100 kg and personal importation less than 20 kg imported from designated countries, an official certificate of origin is acceptable in lieu of the meat certificate.



Meat & Meat Products

Depending on the Origin, **AIRS will state:** Refuse Entry
or Refer to CFIA with the following:

- Official Meat Inspection Certificate
- Canada Customs Invoice
- CFIA-ISC Fax Cover Sheet
- Canadian Meat Inspection Establishment (other than US shipments)
 - Transport Carrier
 - Foreign Processing Establishment
 - Product packaging type
 - Number of packages
 - Total Weight/Volume
 - Export establishment
 - Shipping marks
 - Seal number
 - Label number
 - Slaughter establishment
 - Total weight unit of measure



Meat & Meat Products

- Importations of meat or meat products not exceeding 100 kg that are destined for analysis, evaluation, testing, research, or an International Food Exhibition may be exempted. **Refer to CFIA.**
- Detailed information can be found in the Meat Hygiene Manual of Procedures:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/animalmeat/mopmmhv/chap10/10.1-2e.shtml#10.1>



Meat & Meat Products

Inedible products (ie: tallow, rendered products, & meat products) are highly regulated

Example from AIRS: Bovine meat meal, meat-and-bone meal from United States

Recommendations to Customs:

Refuse Entry

CONDITIONS OF IMPORT

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE REFER TO THE CERTAIN RUMINANTS AND THEIR PRODUCTS IMPORTATION PROHIBITION REGULATIONS, AT THE CFIA WEBSITE :

http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/reg/appro/2005/20107_e.shtml FOR A FULL LIST OF AFFECTED COMMODITIES



Inspection/Approval/Release

Animals & Animal Products

- Most live animals need CFIA Inspection, but some can be inspected by CBSA.
- When AIRS says “Refer to CFIA” for a live animals, semen, embryos, skulls hides and hunting trophies, it needs CFIA inspection. So refer directly to the Vet not the CFIA-ISC.
- When AIRS says “CBSA inspection” for a live animals (ex: birds & horses from USA, cats & dogs), semen or embryos, CBSA can inspect and release.



Inspection/Approval/Release Pet Birds

- **From US:**
 - Can be released by CBSA
 - At the border, the importer must complete an CFIA 1553 - Importer's Declaration of Ownership - available on CFIA's website @ <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/for/mpppe.shtml>
 - Only Refer to CFIA if there is a border lookout or target
- **From countries other than US:**
 - Requires an Import Permit
 - Refer to a CFIA veterinarian for inspection



Inspection/Approval/Release Horses

- **From US:**
 - In most cases (see AIRS), horses from the USA do not need referral to a CFIA veterinarian. CBSA can release if the zoosanitary certificate is provided.
 - Horses not residing in Canada and/or in the USA for the past 60 days are subject to veterinary inspection at the time of entry. Refer to a CFIA veterinarian
- **From other countries:**
 - Subject to veterinary inspection at time of entry into Canada even if entering through the US
 - Refer to a CFIA veterinarian (Permit/Zeosanitary certificate required)



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Inspection/Approval/Release

Honey Bees

- Prohibited from all countries except United States, New Zealand and Australia.
- A Permit to Import and a Zoosanitary certificate are required.



Veterinary Biologics

Veterinary biologic means:

- (a) any helminth, protozoa or micro-organism
- (b) any substance or mixture of substances derived from animals, helminths, protozoa or micro-organisms, or
- (c) any substance of synthetic origin that is manufactured, sold or represented for use in restoring, correcting or modifying organic functions in animals or for use in the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation or prevention of a disease, disorder, abnormal physical state, or the symptoms thereof, in animals.



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Veterinary Biologics

- Veterinary biological products include vaccines, bacterins, bacterin-toxoids and diagnostics kits.
- A **Permit to Import Veterinary Biologics** is required by all Canadian importers for each product.



Inspection/Approval/Release

Animal Feed

- Refer to CFIA-ISC, documents may include:
 - Phytosanitary Certificate, Permit to Import Animal Products, Import License, Zoosanitary Export Certificate, Permit to Import Veterinary Biologics
- Fodder such as hay, straw, grasses and silage intended as livestock feed from countries other than the USA are prohibited



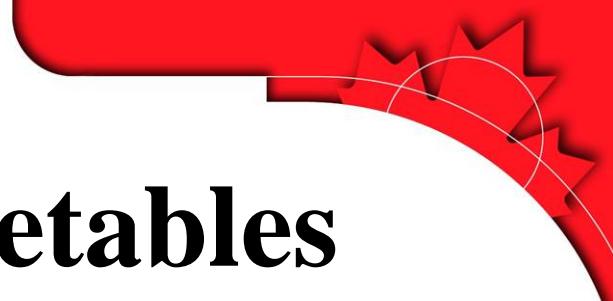
Processed Products

- Processed Fruit and Vegetable (ie: canned, frozen, jars etc.) and Maple products can be released by CBSA on the basis of the Import Declaration.
- All Import Declarations should be relayed to via CBSA to the CFIA.
- Ministerial Exemptions can only be granted if the Minister or delegate considers an importation necessary in order to alleviate a shortage.



Honey

- Honey from all origins needs to be referred to the CFIA –ISC for release approval.
- May be released on the basis of the Import Declaration.
- All Import Declarations should be relayed to the CFIA-ISC.



Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

- Importers require an Import License
- Commercial shipments of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (FF&V) need a Confirmation of Sale (COS) document.
- CBSA can release most FF&V **except when the product needs :**
 - a phytosanitary certificate &/or Plant Protection Import Permit.
 - a Conditional Release due to an incorrect or no Original US Inspection Certificate (FV205) for Apples, Onions & Potatoes.



Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

- Apples, Potatoes and Onions need an Original USDA Memorandum for Canadian Destinations certificate (FV205)
- If the original is lacking or the certificate is incorrect, The customs broker completes a conditional release and faxes this to the ISC for release.
- Certain fruits and vegetables also require a phytosanitary certificate and/or an Import Permit under the Plant Protection Act.



Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

- After release, CBSA forwards a copy of the COS to CFIA.
- For most commodities, “bulk” shipments exceeding 50 kg need a Ministerial Exemption.



Fish Products for Human Consumption

- All persons importing fish or fish products for human consumption must have a valid Fish Import Licence or Quality Management Program Import Licence issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- **All Shellfish** need to referred to CFIA-ISC for release approval.



Fish Products for Human Consumption

- Shellfish may include clams, mussels, oysters, quahogs, geoducks, whelks, limpets, whole scallops, and scallops with roe.
- The United States, New Zealand, France, Korea, Japan, Ireland have certain approved shippers. Please refer to this link:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/animalfis/poi/import/molimpe.shtml>



Dairy

- Dairy products can only be accepted if they are produced in a country that does not pose animal health concerns to Canada.
- To qualify for a lower tariff rate, the Export and Import Permits Act requires an Import Permit for many dairy products. Please contact the International Trade Canada in Ottawa for further information on permits, (613) 996-2594 prior to importing. If an import permit is not obtained, a dairy product may still be imported, but a higher tariff rate will be imposed.



Dairy

- Refer to CFIA
- In many cases, the Import Declaration will suffice.
- In other cases (origin dependent), a Zoosanitary certificate will be required for Animal Health purposes. Refer to the Milk and Regulated Milk Products directive @:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/animal-health/policy/ie-2001-4e.shtml>



Egg & Egg Products

- These products can only be accepted if they are produced in a country that does not pose animal health concerns to Canada.
- Refer to the Egg Products directive @:
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/animal-health/policy/ie-2001-5e.shtml>



Egg & Egg Products

Refer to CFIA (must be accompanied by...):

CFIA-ISC Fax Cover Sheet

USDA Poultry Products Grading Certificate

Transport Carrier

Foreign Processing Establishment

Transport Container Type

Product packaging type

Unit Container Type

Number of packages

Total Weight/Volume

Number of units per package

Unit container unit of measure

Lot code/size

Import Permit

Inspection location



Egg & Egg Products

- In some cases (origin dependent):
 - Prohibited due Animal Disease status.
 - Restricted due Animal Disease status. So a Zoosanitary certificate will be required for Animal Health purposes



Inspection/Approval/Release

Plants and Plant Material

- Regulated under Plant Protection Act
- There are no exemptions related to quantity/ value
- The Import Permit states specific entry conditions for restricted commodities (contractual agreement)
- A Phytosanitary certificate verifies inspection by the exporting country and states any specified entry conditions (certificate of liability)



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Inspection/Approval/Release

Forestry Products with Bark and goods potentially contaminated with soil

Prohibited or regulated (incl. small quantity) from all countries.

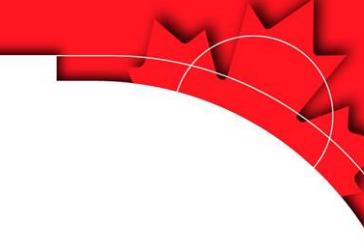


Canada



Wood Packaging

- Huge concern re: Invasive Alien Species.
- ISPM # 15 will soon be fully enforced by North America.
- Product will be automatically refused entry if no certification or stamp exist . Even if they do exit and infestation is found , the shipment will be refused entry.



Wood Packaging

- Reminder added to AIRS:

- "Wood packaging contained with shipment displays the ISPM No. 15 compliant stamp." OR
- " Wood packaging material is accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate, ie. approved treatment per ISPM No. 15. " OR
- "Wood packaging material is made out of manufactured wood which is exempted from ISPM No. 15."

OR (when it applies)

- "No wood packaging contained with shipment."



Seeds

- **In most cases,** Refer to CFIA for release.
- *Documentation* : Seed Analysis Certificate, Seed Import Declaration, Phytosanitary Certificate, Permit to Import, Import Licence.
- **Various exemptions and prohibitions** exist.
- Authorized Importers exist.



Plant Biological Material

- Insects, bacteria, Plants with Novel Traits or any other microorganism may be prohibited or require a Plant Protection Permit to Import.



Fertilizer

- Chemical fertilizers, **other than** fertilizer-pesticides, imported for direct application to the soil by the importer and not for sale in Canada, are exempt from the Fertilizers Act and Regulations.
- Organic fertilizers (ie: containing manure, soil, plant material) do require referral to the CFIA-ISC.



Fertilizer

Combination fertilizer/pesticide products

Refer to CFIA-ISC:

- must have a Fertilizer Registration Number

CONDITIONS OF IMPORT

- Product must be registered under the Fertilizers Act
- Registration number must be indicated on the release documentation or in the EDI data elements.



Organic Fertilizer

AIRS states:

- Prohibited ie: Refuse Entry
or Refer to CFIA-ISC:
- may require any combination of documents:
 - Phytosanitary Certificate
 - Zoosanitary Export Certificate,
 - Permit to Import Animal Products



Animal & Plant Permits

- Permits state the entry conditions for animals, plants or their products.
- must be issued prior to departure from the Foreign country.
- If a permit is required but it doesn't exist at the time of arrival at a Canadian port, the product will be refused.



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CFIA on the Web

www.inspection.gc.ca

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