

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



NAFTA Technical Working Group on Pesticides
Grupo de Trabajo Técnico del TLCAN sobre Plaguicidas
Le groupe de travail technique de l'ALENA sur les pesticides

Biopesticides Registration Improvement Course

Organic Product Regulations In Canada

Presented on Behalf of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments



Organic Products Regulations, 2009 (OPR)

- Came into force on June 30, 2009
- Objectives of the Regulations
 - Consumer protection
 - Continued market access
 - Development of the domestic market



Canadian Organic Standards

- OPR 2009 Incorporate by reference the Canadian Organic Standard
 - To claim organic a product must be certified to the *Canadian Organic Production Systems Standards: General Principles and Management Standards CAN/CGSB 32.310* and *Permitted Substances Lists CAN/CGSB 32.311*
 - The Organic Standards are developed and maintained by the Committee on Organic Agriculture
 - The Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) manages the maintenance of the Organic Standard



Canadian Organic Standards Permitted Substances List

- Section 4: Permits Substances for Crop Production
 - 4.2 Soil amendments and Crop Nutrition
 - 4.3 Crop Production Aids and Materials
 - 4.4 weed Management

NOTE: these are substances that are permitted in organic production. They are not agricultural products and are not subject to certification.



Scope

- Commodities not within the scope of the OPR include: aquaculture, fertilizer, cosmetics and natural health products
- Intra-provincially traded products also are not subject to the OPR
- These products may make organic claims, however they:
 - may not bear the organic legend
 - must comply with other federal legislation, including the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations, and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations



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Imported Organic Products

- ***Organic products may be imported under either of the following conditions:***
 - 1) Certified to the Canadian Organic Standard;
 - 2) Certified as organic in accordance with an agreement, entered into with another country, regarding the importation and exportation of organic products, by a certification body recognized by that country.
- Canada and the US have an agreement which recognizes the two national organic systems as equivalent with a few exclusions



Canadian Food Inspection Agency

- As a competent authority the CFIA :
 - Designates conformity verification bodies to assess and monitor certification bodies
 - Accredits Certification bodies to certify organic products
 - Administers the OPR
 - Enforces the OPR



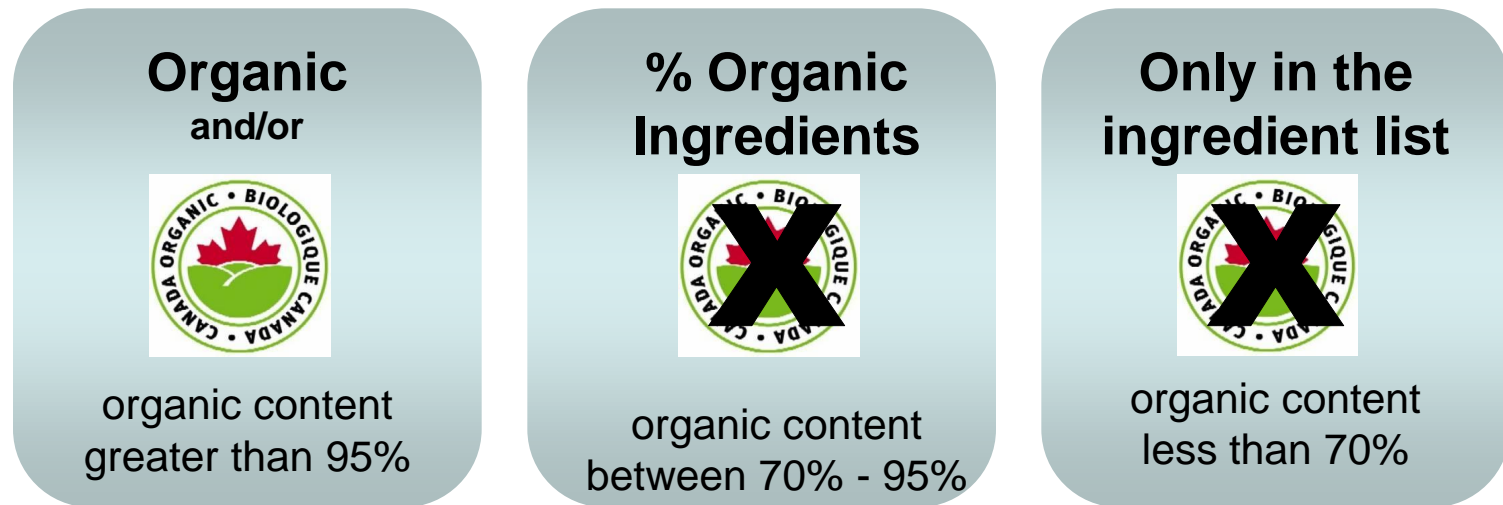
Implementation

- Monitoring and Enforcement
 - CFIA commodity inspection programs integrate the verification of organic claims into their inspection activities
 - CFIA inspectors will be verifying organic claims for compliance with the OPR



Permitted Organic Claims

- The OPR allow for specific organic claims which are based on the organic content of the product:

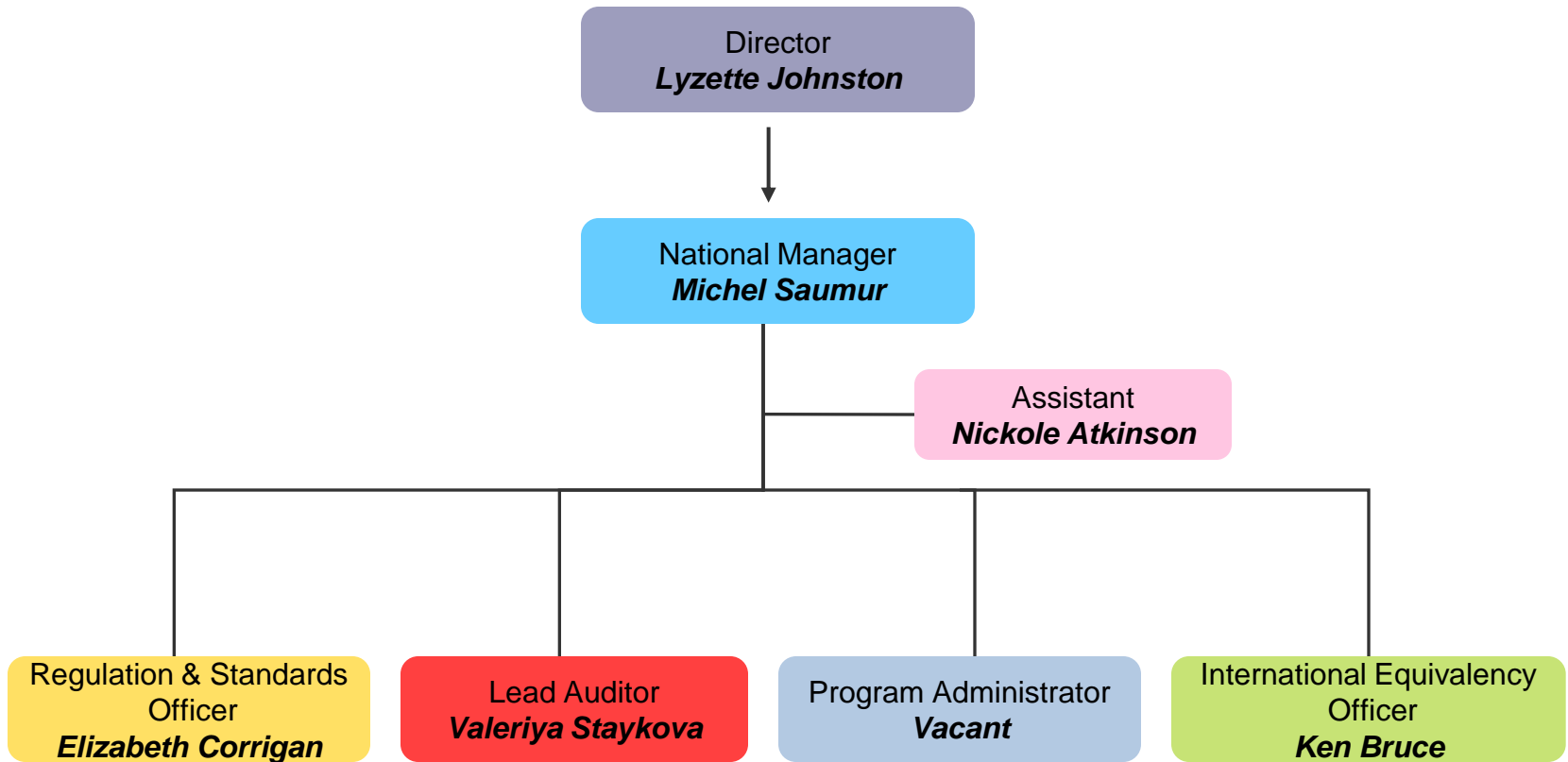


- The name of the Certification Body must appear on the label
- If a multi-ingredient organic product, the organic Ingredients must be declared in the ingredient list.



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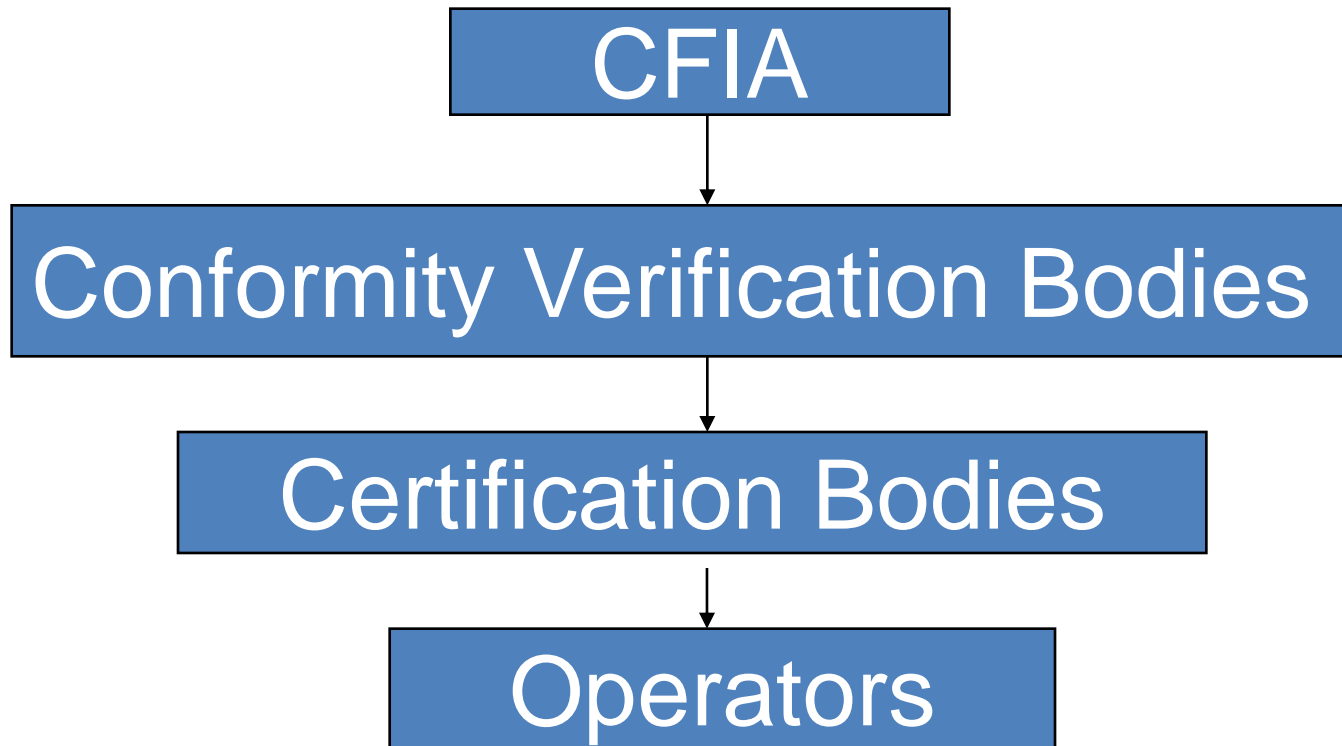
CFIA – Agri-Food Division *Canada Organic Office*





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Third party Assessment under the Canada Organic Regime





Conformity Verification Bodies

- Designated by the CFIA to assess, recommend for accreditation and subsequently monitor certification bodies.
- Meet the requirements set out in ISO/IEC 17011 *Conformity assessment — General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies.*
- Enter into agreement with the CFIA under subsection 14(1) of the *Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act*
- The steps for assessment and designation of the CVB are described in the COO Operating Manual.



Certification Bodies

- Responsible for the organic certification of agricultural products and organic product packaging and labelling certification.
- Meet the requirements set out in ISO/IEC Guide 65, entitled *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*.
- Recommended for accreditation by the CVB
- Accredited by the CFIA and listed on the CFIA web site
- The steps for assessment and accreditation of the Certification Bodies are described in the COO Operating Manual.



Operators

- Apply to CFIA accredited Certification bodies to obtain certification
- Must comply with the requirements set out in CAN/CGSB 32.310 and CAN/CGSB 32.311
- The steps for assessment and certification of the operators are described in the COO Operating Manual.



References and Contacts

Organic Products Regulations:

- CFIA Website: www.inspection.gc.ca
- Canada Gazette Website: www.canadagazette.gc.ca
- send comments to : OPR.RPB@inspection.gc.ca

Organic Production Systems Standards:

- Canadian General Standards Board Website:
- www.pwgsc.gc.ca/cgsb

Contact:

Michel Saumur, Manager, Canada Organic Office

(613) 773-6218 michel.saumur@inspection.gc.ca

