



119 2nd Ave. West
Dickinson, ND 58601, USA
Tel: +1 701 483 5504 Fax: +1 701 483 5508
E Mail: info@ioas.org
Web: www.ioas.org

IOAS Official Notice 2018_02
May 25, 2018
Requirement for operators in CB COR programme

Applicability: Canada Organic Regime

References: Canada Organic Regime Operating Manual v15 B.3.14.a

Applicable immediately

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency published an updated version 15 Canada Organic Regime Operating Manual dated February 19, 2018. We have already informed you of this update.

Under section B of the Manual which relates to requirements on Conformity Verification Bodies such as the IOAS, clause B.3.14.a states:

B.3.14 The CVB (Conformity Verification Body) shall impose sanctions such as recommend to the CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) suspension of the CB (certification body) if:

a. the CB (certification body) does not have any operators after two consecutive surveillance assessments in an Accreditation cycle ...

Although this is unlikely to apply to established CBs working with the COR, it can apply to CBs recently accredited. The rationale for this requirement is that implementation of the COR requirements by the CB is impossible to check in practice where no certificates are being issued.

The IOAS will apply this requirement from the date of publication (February 19, 2018). Therefore where CBs are found to remain with an empty COR programme (ie no operators) at two consecutive annual or re-assessment on-site visits, the IOAS will propose suspension of that CB to CFIA following the second visit.

If you have any questions related to this official notice, please contact your Client Manager.

End