



Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

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Ottawa, Ontario  
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Date: February 15, 2019

**Attention: All Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) designated Conformity Verification Bodies (CVB) and accredited Certification Bodies (CB)**

**Subject: Implementation of revised Canada Organic Regime (COR) Operating Manual (V16 as of January 15, 2019)**

This letter issued by the CFIA is intended to clarify the process of implementing the revised Part C of the COR operating manual V16, 2019.

The revised COR Operating Manual was published on January 15, 2019 when the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations came into force.

All CFIA accredited CBs are required to incorporate the revised requirements into their manuals and documentations no later than July 15, 2019.

As per clause 7.10.1 of ISO 17065, the CFIA accredited CBs must ensure that the revised requirements that affect the operators are communicated to all of them. As per section C.5.1 of the COR Operating Manual, the CB is required to notify all its operators of any amendments to the regulations within two months after publication.

The CVBs are required to verify the implementation of the revised requirements by the CBs during the 2019 scheduled on-site audits.

Between January 15, 2019, and July 15, 2019, if the CVBs find a non-conformity to a revised section of Part C of the COR Manual, they should issue only "observation" or "opportunity for improvement".

After July 15, 2019 if the CVBs find a non-conformity to a revised section of Part C of the COR Manual, they should issue "non-conformity" and allow the CBs up to 60 days to address the non-conformity.

If any additional clarity is required in specific situations, please follow the established communication channels.

Sincerely,

Valeriya Staykova

Lead Auditor, Canada Organic Regime  
Food Import Export Division

