



Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

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Date: June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016

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

**Re: Clarification of the term “processed product” in the scope of the European Union - Canada Organic Equivalency Arrangement (EUCOEA)**

The CFIA has received multiple requests for clarification on what is considered within the scope of the EUCOEA since the expansion of the arrangement to include multi-ingredients products made with imported ingredients.

The CFIA confirms that the EUCOEA agreement covers processed agricultural products for use as food and processed agricultural products for use as feed that have been processed in Canada with organically grown ingredients grown in Canada or imported into Canada in accordance with the *Organic Products Regulations*, 2009.

The term “processed product” for the purposes of export to the EU under the EUCOEA is defined in Article 2 (1) of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1463757236467&uri=CELEX:02004R0852-20090420> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs whereas:

(m) ‘processing’ means any action that substantially alters the initial product, including heating, smoking, curing, maturing, drying, marinating, extraction, extrusion or a combination of those processes;

(n) ‘unprocessed products’ means foodstuffs that have not undergone processing, and includes products that have been divided, parted, severed, sliced, boned, minced, skinned, ground, cut, cleaned, trimmed, husked, milled, chilled, frozen, deep-frozen or thawed;

(o) ‘processed products’ means foodstuffs resulting from the processing of unprocessed products. These products may contain ingredients that are necessary for their manufacture or to give them specific characteristics.

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

Sincerely,

Valeriya Staykova  
Lead Auditor Canada Organic Regime  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency

