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Amendments to Directive 09-01 - Certification of organic products to the requirements of the US-Canada Organic Equivalency Arrangement

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TO: Conformity Verification Bodies

DATE: June 18, 2010

On July 6th, 2009 the Canada Organic Office sent a request to the [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) designated [CVBs \(Conformity Verification Bodies\)](#) to communicate Directive 09-01 to the [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) accredited [CBs \(Certification Bodies\)](#). This directive outlines the requirements for the [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) accredited [CBs \(Certification Bodies\)](#) on how to certify to the terms of the [US \(United States\)-Canada Organic Equivalency Arrangement](#) and applies to all [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) accredited [CBs \(Certification Bodies\)](#) certifying to the terms of the Arrangement for imports and exports to [US \(United States\)](#).


Directive 09-01 remains in force with the following amendment:

Documentation requirements

Products imported or exported under the terms of this arrangement must be accompanied by documents which would have the following attestation added to the product by the Certification body verified the product: certified to the terms of the [US \(United States\)-Canada Organic equivalence arrangement](#). The documentation on which attestation could be added may be in the form of a transaction certificate, certificate addendum or any other affirmative attestation issued by the certification body. Copies of these documents must be maintained by the Accredited Certification Body, exporter and importer for review by [NOP \(National Organic Program\)](#), [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) designated [CVBs \(Conformity Verification Bodies\)](#) and/or [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) officials.

[CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) accredited Certification Bodies are responsible for ensuring that products intended for the [US \(United States\)](#) market are certified in accordance with the terms of the Arrangement and this directive. [CFIA \(Canadian Food Inspection Agency\)](#) designated [CVBs \(Conformity Verification Bodies\)](#) are responsible for monitoring the certification activities of the [CFIA](#)

(Canadian Food Inspection Agency) accredited CBs (Certification Bodies) with respect to this arrangement. CVBs (Conformity Verification Bodies) shall review export compliance verification procedures and records of exports to US (United States) under the terms of this arrangement during each onsite audit of the CB (Certification Body).

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