



Interpretation of C.10 requirements when an operator changes a CB (Certification Bodies) under COR (Canada Organic Regime)

Date: December 27, 2013

To: Conformity Verification Bodies (CVB) designated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Certification Bodies (CB) accredited by the CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency)

Subject: Interpretation of C.10 requirements of the Canada Organic Office (COO) Operating Manual when an operator changes a CB (Certification Bodies) under the Canada Organic Regime (COR)

Section C.10 of the COO (Canada Organic Office) Operating Manual is applicable only in cases when the operator holds a valid organic certificate and wishes to change their current CB (Certification Bodies).

- When an operator decides to change their current CB (Certification Bodies) (sending) to a new CB (Certification Bodies) (receiving) an application form prescribed by the new CB (Certification Bodies) shall be completed following the application requirements as per C.2.1 of the COO (Canada Organic Office) Operating Manual.
- The receiving CB (Certification Bodies) shall request information on the name of the applicant's current Certification Body (sending), including all details pertaining to processing of the operator's previous application, and the resulting decision.
- The receiving CB (Certification Bodies) shall validate the submitted information with the sending CB (Certification Bodies) as per clause C.7.18 of the COO (Canada Organic Office) Operating Manual and shall address all non-conformities as per C.2.7.1 prior to making a certification decision.
- Clause C.10.1.4 from the COO (Canada Organic Office) Operating Manual shall be interpreted as "The operator shall not use up existing supplies of labels which identify their previous CB (Certification Bodies) on products they produce from the moment the operator receives the new certificate."
- Clause C.10.2.1 from the COO (Canada Organic Office) Operating Manual shall be interpreted as: "The receiving CB (Certification Bodies) shall inform the sending CB (Certification Bodies) within 5 business days that they issued a compliance certificate. The sending CB (Certification Bodies) shall notify the operator that it terminates the certification agreement it has with the operator and that it will no longer monitor the compliance of its operation only after a notification from the receiving CB (Certification Bodies) is received."

The sending CB (Certification Bodies) shall report the cancellation in the monthly report to the CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) as a "cancellation due to a CB (Certification Bodies) change"

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