



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Canadian Food Inspection Agency



Our vision:

To excel as a science-based regulator, trusted and respected by Canadians and the international community.

Our mission:

Dedicated to safeguarding food, animals and plants, which enhances the health and well-being of Canada's people, environment and economy.

The CFIA: Who We Are and What We Do

Presented to the Italian Trade Delegation

September 16, 2014

Canada

Presentation Overview

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- **What we do**
- **How we carry out our mandate**
- **Our partners**
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Who We Are

The CFIA is:

- the largest science-based regulatory agency in Canada
- responsible for delivering all federally-mandated programs for food inspection, plant and animal health, and consumer protection as it relates to food

Who We Are

Our Vision and Mission:

Our vision is to excel as a science-based regulator, trusted and respected by Canadians and the international community.

We are dedicated to safeguarding food, animals and plants, which enhances the health and well-being of Canada's people, environment and economy.

Who We Are

Our People

We have close to 7,000 dedicated and highly trained professionals working across Canada.

The CFIA is organized into four operational Areas (Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario and Western):

- 18 regional offices
- 185 field offices (including border points of entry)
- 408 offices in non-government establishments, such as processing facilities

The Agency also has laboratories and research facilities across the country.



What We Do

The CFIA's Legislative Authority

The CFIA administers or enforces 13 acts and 38 sets of regulations:

- *Food and Drugs Act**
- *Fish Inspection Act*
- *Health of Animals Act*
- *Meat Inspection Act*
- *Plant Breeders' Rights Act*
- *Plant Protection Act*
- *Fertilizers Act*
- *Feeds Act*
- *Seeds Act*
- *Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act*
- *Canada Agricultural Products Act*
- *Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act*
- *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act**

*As it relates to food

What We Do

CFIA's Operating Environment

The CFIA operates in a rapidly evolving environment shaped by:

- globalization
- changing demographics
- consumer preferences
- complex trading environments
- evolving science and technology
- impacts of climate change

What We Do

Managing Food Safety Risks

The CFIA:

- enforces food safety and nutritional quality requirements of food sold in Canada*
- verifies industry compliance with federal acts and regulations
- operates an emergency response system
 - The CFIA manages hundreds of food recalls each year.
- provides outreach to Canadians on food safety

**policies and standards are set by Health Canada*

What We Do

Protecting Canada's Plants

The CFIA:

- inspects and surveys for plant pests and diseases
- imposes quarantines and other control measures for plant pests and diseases
- undertakes eradication activities where appropriate
- verifies fertilizers and supplements for safety, and accurate representation in the marketplace

What We Do

Controlling Transmission of Animal Diseases to Humans

The CFIA mitigates zoonotic diseases (diseases that can transmit between animals and humans), such as bovine spongiform encephalopathy and avian influenza. It does this through:

- prevention (risk reduction, disease surveillance)
- preparedness (effective policies, procedures and plans)
- response (actions taken immediately before, during or directly after disease emergence and/or spread)
- recovery (efforts to repair and restore)

What We Do

Protecting Canada's Animal Resource Base

The CFIA:

- verifies livestock feeds for safety, efficacy and appropriate labelling
- uses internationally-accepted disease control methods when outbreaks occur
- monitors livestock identification requirements at livestock markets
- verifies humane transportation and slaughter

What We Do

Regulating Biotechnology

- Products derived through biotechnology that the CFIA regulates include:
 - plants with novel traits
 - novel livestock feeds
 - novel supplements
 - veterinary biologics
- The CFIA regulates biotechnology-derived products and conducts assessments for efficacy and safety for animals, the environment and human handling.

How We Carry Out Our Mandate

Maintaining an Effective Regulatory Base

To maintain an effective and transparent system that is based on rules, risk assessment and science, the CFIA:

- develops and updates acts and regulations
- leads or participates in domestic and international agreements and arrangements
- consults with other levels of government, consumers, industry, academia and other stakeholders

How We Carry Out Our Mandate

Understanding and Managing Risk

- corporate risk profile (CRP)
 - a structured snapshot of the risks that may prevent the Agency from reaching its objectives
- integrated risk management
 - risk management policy that is integrated into all CFIA operational and functional units' policy, priority setting, planning, resourcing, delivery, review and reporting activities

How We Carry Out Our Mandate

Excelling as a Science-Based Regulator

Science is an integral part of CFIA business through:

- doing laboratory analyses, diagnostics and related services
- developing methodologies to deliver its services
- providing risk assessments, foresight and scientific advice
- conducting research in support of all of the above
- providing oversight of third party delivery of laboratory services



How We Carry Out Our Mandate

Certifying Exports and Controlling Imports

The CFIA:

- certifies animals(including animal products), foods, and plants that are exported around the world
- controls the importation of animals, their genetics, and animal products
- inspects and assesses plants, plant products and soil imports
- sets policies and regulations for the import of food, agricultural inputs and agricultural products (enforced by the Canada Border Services Agency)

How We Carry Out Our Mandate

Protecting Consumers and the Marketplace from Unfair Practices

For example, the CFIA:

- enforces standards for food labelling
- tests and inspects seeds to verify compliance with the *Seeds Act* relating to trueness to type, purity, germination, quality, and disease
- verifies compliance with the *Fertilizers Act*
- monitors fresh produce for safety and wholesomeness, and compliance with labelling requirements to avoid marketplace deception



Strong Partnerships

The success of Canada's food safety system depends on working closely with:

- other federal government departments and agencies
- provinces, territories and municipalities
- international governments
- consumers
- industry
- academia

Our Priorities

- Food safety
 - consumer protection
 - effectively managing food safety emergencies
 - public awareness
- Plant protection and animal health
 - maintaining a safe and sustainable plant and animal resource base
 - minimizing and managing risks by protecting plants and animals from pests and diseases

Our Priorities

- Engagement and outreach
 - continuing consumer protection activities
 - working with partners and stakeholders, domestically and internationally

- Management excellence
 - streamlining and modernizing internal services to better support Agency priorities
 - planning for long-term recruitment, retention and development of resource base

IMPORT - Automated Import Reference System (AIRS)

The purpose of the AIRS is to provide accurate and timely information on import requirements. The application uses a question and answer approach to guide the user through a series of questions about the Harmonized System (HS) Codes, origin, destination, end use and miscellaneous qualifiers of the product they wish to import.

The AIRS has been prepared for the convenience of reference only and has no official sanction. For all purposes of interpreting and applying the law, users should consult the Acts as passed by Parliament.



HOW CAN I ACCESS AIRS

You can access AIRS using the following link

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/plants/imports/airs/eng/1300127512994/1300127627409>

NATIONAL IMPORT SERVICE CENTRE (NISC)

The National Import Service Centre processes import request documentation / data sent by the importing community across Canada. Staff review the information and return the decision electronically to the CBSA, which then relays it to the client or the broker/importer.

In addition, NISC staff handle telephone inquiries regarding import requirements for all commodities regulated by the CFIA and, when necessary, coordinate inspections for import shipments.



How may clients contact the National Import Service Centre?

National Import Service Centre

7:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)

Telephone and EDI: 1-800-835-4486 (Canada or U.S.A.)

1-289-247-4099 (local calls and all other countries)

1-877-493-0468 (Quebec)

Facsimile: 1-613-773-9999

NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

Please visit our Web Site at the following address:

www.inspection.gc.ca

Regarding imports, several interesting documents are found in the following link:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/imports/eng/1323714792490/1323715949260>

IMPORT CONTACT AT CFIA – Quebec region

Nathalie Boucher

Area Import coordinator

2001, University St, room 671^E

Montreal (Quebec)

H3A 3N2

Phone: (514) 283-3815, ext. 4311

Fax: (514) 496-4699

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Benvenuto in Canada

Ci auguriamo che queste informazioni utili e
rimaniamo a vostra disposizione per rispondere alle
vostre domande.

Buona fortuna nei vostri sforzi!

Canada