

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.

CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY
"Agriculture and Food Border Controls – a Canadian Perspective"

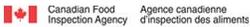


Overview of the CFIA

Mandate

Created in 1997, the CFIA is mandated to safeguard Canada's food supply and the plants and animals upon which safe and high-quality food depends.

In carrying out this mandate, the CFIA is committed to serving Canadians by providing protection from preventable health risks, delivering a fair and effective regulatory regime, sustaining the plant and animal resource base, and promoting the security of Canada's food supply.



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Overview of the CFIA

Mandate

Accordingly, the CFIA is the Government of Canada's key science-based regulator for the following:

- food safety*
- animal health
- plant protection

* In partnership with Health Canada

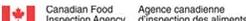
 

Overview of the CFIA

Legislation

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

* As it relates to food
Plus 29 sets of Regulations

Co-operative Framework

CBSA- CFIA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Inter Agency Communication

-Linkages through the National Import Managers

-Coordination through the Area Import Co-ordinators

Roles

CBSA

Travellers inspection
Initial inspection to identify CFIA regulated goods
Cargo holds
Seize/destroy/Re-export
Refer CFIA violations
Collection of Data
Approve Low Risk CFIA Regulated goods
Release goods

CFIA

Regulation & Policy development
Risk Analysis
Trade compliance
Documentation review (ISCs) to approve High Risk CFIA Regulated goods
Foreign Inspections
Post border Inspections

CFIA Risk Assessment

- Science based.
- Origin and commodity based
- Pathway risk- ex:wood packaging
- Risk communicated to CBSA

Risks Food

Food related concerns

- Biological hazards: bacteria, parasites, viruses, etc.
- Chemical hazards: toxins, pesticides, antibiotic residues, heavy metal, allergens, etc.
- Physical hazards: glass, metal pieces, insects, etc.

When the CFIA has concerns related to an imported food product, a food recall process is initiated and an « **IMPORT ALERT** » is issued. ***



Risks Animals and Animal Products (including food containing animal products)

Examples of foreign animal diseases

- Foot and mouth disease (FMD)
- Newcastle disease (NCD)
- Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)
- Hog cholera (classical swine fever)

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Risks Plants and Plant Products (including certain foods)

Examples of foreign plant pests /Diseases

- Brown Spruce Long Horned Beetle
- Asian Long Horned Beetle
- Plum Pox
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Golden Nematode

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Commodities needing CFIA release approval prior to release by CBSA

Live Animals and Animal Products, Feed

Plants and Plant Products, Fertilizer, Seed

Meat & Poultry products, Dairy, Egg, Shellfish & Honey

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable –Depends on Origin

Border lookouts

Food Safety & Labelling

The Food and Drugs Act and Regulations (FDA & R), and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations (CPLA & R) place the legal responsibility on the importer to ensure that the imported product conforms to all requirements of these Acts and Regulations. For example:

Section A.01.044 of the Food & Drug Regulations (FDR) states: “Subject to section A.01.044, **no person shall import into Canada for sale a food...which in Canada would constitute a violation** of the Act or these Regulations. SOR/92-626, s. 2(F).”

Food Safety & Labelling

1. “Guide to Importing Foods Commercially (GIFC)”

http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/publications/com_import/toce.shtml

2. “Good Importing Practices (GIP’s)”

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/inform/impprae.shtml>

3. The “Guide to Food Labelling and Advertising”

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/guide/toce.shtml>

Inspection/Approval/Release

Animals & Animal Products

Most live animals need CFIA Inspection, but some can be inspected by CBSA.

When AIRS says “Refer to CFIA- Vet Inspection” for a live animals, certain semen/embryos, skulls hides and hunting trophies, it needs CFIA inspection. So refer directly to the Vet not the CFIA-ISC.

When AIRS says “CBSA inspection” for a live animals (ex: birds & horses from USA, cats & dogs), certain semen/embryos, CBSA can inspect and release.

Inspection/Approval/Release

Plants and Plant Material

CBSA performs visual inspection at the seaports and land borders on any goods that could contain soil. Example: used vehicles, used farm equipment, granite blocks etc. Used passenger vehicles aren't inspected at land borders.

CBSA can examine Wood Packing Material.

Wood Packaging

Huge concern re: Invasive Alien Species.

ISPM # 15 is being fully enforced by North America.

Product will be automatically refused entry if no certification or stamp exist. Even if they do exist and infestation is found, the shipment will be refused entry.



CFIA Import Process

Import Service Centres (ISC)

Eastern ISC: Located in Montreal (Anjou)
Tel:1 (877) 493-0468 / Fax: 1 (514) 493-4103
Open from 07:00 to 23:00 (eastern standard time)

Central ISC: Located in Toronto
Tel:1 (800) 835-4486 / Fax:1 (416) 661-5767
Open from 07:00 to 24:00 (eastern standard time)

Western ISC: Located in Vancouver
Tel:1 (888) 732-6222 / Fax:1 (604)- 666-1577
Open from 10:00 to 03:00 (eastern standard time)

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CFIA Import Process

When AIRS states Refer to CFIA-ISC

Broker/importer presents an entry package either by:

1. Paper or
2. Electronically via the CBSA's Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

CFIA's ISC renders a decision.

CBSA releases or refuses the goods.

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CFIA AUTOMATED IMPORT SYSTEM

OBJECTIVE

To provide an automated system for the management of all imported products regulated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency

AIS COMPONENTS

- Reference (**AIRS**)
- Electronic link with Customs (**EDI**)
- Control & Tracking (**ICTS**)

Automated Import Reference System (AIRS)

CBSA's Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) communicates with the CFIA's AIRS to make a release, refuse or refer to CFIA decision.

AIRS also serves as the information tool for Brokers and the importing community.

www.inspection.gc.ca/english/imp/airse.shtml

Special Projects- Blitzes

Supplement to Import Operations

Education and Awareness to importers

Additional enforcement at the Ports of Entry

Reduction of undeclared products

ENFORCEMENT

AMPs Act passed in December, 1995
Remedial / not punitive - decriminalized
Intermediate enforcement action
All investigations completed as if going to court

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INTERNET ADDRESS:

www.inspection.gc.ca

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