



Canadian organic labelling requirements

To sell your organic food and drink products in Canada they must meet the requirements of the Canada Organic Regime (COR). These guidelines will help you produce your labelling to meet the COR requirements.

The full labelling requirements are set out in Part 13 of the *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations*, which can be found at the following web address:

<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2018-108/page-34.html#h-846236>

COR also applies to sale of animal feed and products used for the cultivation of plants, for example seeds.

If a product is to be marketed both in the UK and Canada and the same retail label applied, that label must meet the requirements of both the Soil Association and COR standards. In this instance, please view the following requirements as additional to those set out in the Soil Association standards. Guidelines covering these standards are also available.

If the operator is transferring COR certification from another CB, as soon as SA Certification issues a certificate for the site/products the operator must immediately stop using labels that reference the old certifier.

If a separate label is designed to be used exclusively in Canada, it only needs to meet the COR requirements, as follows:

Labelling

Only food products with 95% or more organic ingredients may be labelled as Organic. This also applies if you wish to label your product as "bio", "biological", "ecological", "biodynamic", or similar terms.

Products with between 70-95% organic ingredients can use the wording 'x% organic ingredients'. You must make sure this wording 'organic ingredients' is the same size and prominence as the percentage. These products cannot be labelled as Organic.

Products with less than 70% organic ingredients may only make organic claims in the product's ingredient list. These products do not require certification. They cannot use the COR logo or a certification body logo.

COR logo

The Canadian organic logo may only be used on products with more than 95% organic ingredients. Use of the logo is voluntary. Please contact us if you would like a copy.



If you use the logo on product you export to Canada you must include the name of the country of origin as follows "Product of ", (e.g "Product of UK"), or include the term "Imported". This must appear in close proximity to the logo.

Additional information

The following information must appear on the label and delivery documentation:

- Company name
- Name of the certifier (acronyms permitted)

- Traceability information, e.g batch code or lot number
- Your labels must include information in English and French
- For multi ingredient products must identify the organic ingredients in the ingredient panel.
- All additives and processing aids that remain in the product must be labelled.

The food labelling tool should be used: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/general-food-requirements-and-guidance/labelling/for-industry/eng/1383607266489/1383607344939>

The following information is not permitted:

- GM claims unless independently tested
- "100% organic"
- "made with organic _____"

The above are specific organic requirements for complying with COR and we will check these when approving your labels. It is your responsibility to ensure your products comply with all other Canadian food labelling legislation.

SA Certification procedures

1. Please send in draft copies of your labels to us for approval before you print them.
2. We will review your labels within five working days and inform you of any changes you need to make.
3. Once any changes have been made, and the amended labels sent to us, we will send you written approval.
4. If you want to make changes to a product specification that will affect the ingredients panel, then you will need to amend the label and re-submit it for approval.

If labels are printed without our approval, and they do not comply with the labelling standards, we may ask for them to be reprinted.