



CanadaGAP certification across the Americas

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CanadaGAP® is a program developed in Canada to promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for fruit and vegetable suppliers.

CFIA has recognized CanadaGAP as a model system for food safety preventative controls for the horticulture sector. Based on a complete CFIA-conducted comparison of CanadaGAP with the *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations* (SFCR), CFIA has determined that the food safety elements of the SFCR are addressed 100% by CanadaGAP program requirements. In other words, there are no food safety preventative controls contained in the SFCR that are not already covered by CanadaGAP program requirements.

CanadaGAP has also achieved international recognition and is officially benchmarked to the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) for certification options B, C, and D (for repacking and wholesaling). GFSI is an international benchmarking scheme that evaluates food safety programs against a set of requirements agreed on by retailers, manufacturers and other stakeholders.

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GFSI recognition of CanadaGAP was first granted in 2010, renewed in 2013 and re-benchmarking to the latest version of GFSI requirements (Version 7.1) was completed in June 2018.

Launched in 2008, the program has grown to include over 3,100 participating companies from across the Canadian and U.S. fresh produce industry. Audit services are available from two certification bodies operating across Canada and in the U.S. One certification body is also approved to offer CanadaGAP audits in Latin America.

CanadaGAP has maintained an updated a series of resources first published in 2017 on the CanadaGAP website. The purpose of these materials is to help CanadaGAP-certified companies with training employees, interpreting the technical requirements of the program, and understanding how certification can help them to meet regulatory requirements whether in Canada or the U.S.

Among the resources available is “Information for Canadian exporters to the United States about the Foreign Supplier Verification Program (FSVP)”, which can be found at www.canadagap.ca under Tools / “Food Safety Links”.

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