

CanadaGAP Report Includes Audit Results

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Participants in the CanadaGAP program averaged an audit score of 94.04% in 2016, the Ottawa- based organization reported Dec. 2 in its annual report.

The report was scheduled to be presented formally at the CanAgPlus annual conference Dec. 8 in Ottawa.

The report provides a summary of the year's activities, highlights the program audit and participation trends and offers a preview of objectives and plans for 2017.

"Our focus in the next year is re-benchmarking to (Global Food Safety Initiative) Version 7 requirements, which includes implementing any changes needed to the scheme to comply with new GFSI requirements," said Heather Gale, CanadaGAP's executive director. "Regarding FSMA (the U.S.'s Food Safety and Modernization Act of 2011), we are doing a comparison between CanadaGAP requirements and FSMA expectations to identify any gaps."

A copy of the report is available for download at www.canadagap.ca/publications/annual-report.

CanadaGAP is a national, voluntary food safety program consisting of standards and a certification system for the safe production and handling of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Two manuals, one specific to greenhouse operations, the second for other fruit and vegetable operations, have been developed by the horticultural industry and reviewed for technical soundness by Canadian government officials.

The manuals are designed for companies implementing Good Agricultural Practices in their fruit and vegetable production, packing and storage operations; for repackers and wholesalers implementing Good Manufacturing Practices and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points programs; and for produce brokers following supplier management and traceability best practices.