

To: CanadaGAP Stakeholders
Date: June 20, 2016
Subject: Clarification of CanadaGAP requirements as they apply to standalone storage operations

The following communication applies to standalone storage operations and the CanadaGAP-certified companies (e.g., producers) who store their product in those facilities.

CanadaGAP requires all certified companies to source their product from suppliers who are also certified to CanadaGAP or to another industry-recognized third party food safety audit/certification.

The requirement in Section 19.1 states:

- *The person responsible selects/purchases harvested/market product from operations that have successfully completed one of the options below and requests a copy of a current/valid certificate:*
 - CanadaGAP*
 - Other industry recognized third party food safety audit/certification*

The CanadaGAP requirement in Section 19.1 applies to certified companies that are “selecting” their product from a storage operation where it has been stored before being sent for further handling (e.g., packing, processing). This means that companies using standalone storage operations must ensure that the facility has successfully completed either a CanadaGAP or other industry recognized third party food safety audit/certification and has a current/valid certificate.

Therefore, certified companies that are sending product to standalone storage operations will be expected to request certification from the storage operation. This applies regardless of whether the product comes back under the direct control or ownership of the certified company “selecting” the product.

The decision to include standalone storage operations in the requirement was undertaken after consultation with the CanadaGAP Stakeholder Advisory Committee and Board of Directors. This interpretation of the requirement ensures that food safety principles are addressed and assured in all parts of the supply chain that fall within the scope of the CanadaGAP program.

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