
From: Lusby, MaryLou [MaryLou.Lusby@ams.usda.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009 12:38 PM
To: ACAs (addresses removed)
Cc: Robinson, Barbara -AMS; Wilson, Demaris; Bradley, Mark; Melvin, Jonathan
Subject: U.S.-Canada Determination of Equivalency

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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TO: All USDA-ACAs

FROM: Barbara C. Robinson, Acting Director, National Organic Program
Deputy Administrator, Transportation & Marketing Programs, USDA-AMS

SUBJECT: U.S.-Canada Determination of Equivalency
Effective Date: July 1, 2009

1. ACAs must inform their clients that effective July 1, for raw produce intended to be shipped to Canada, no field from which such produce is intended to be harvested may be treated with sodium nitrate (Chilean nitrate). Fields do not have to undergo a three-year transition to meet this requirement. However, fields must be designated free from the application of sodium nitrate, OSPs must be amended, records kept, and the OSP must be auditable. This does not apply to products used in processed products.

2. ACAs must document and collect livestock density ratios for all operations certified for livestock, poultry, and eggs. Data required are animal units per acre or per square foot (for swine and poultry) for all certified operations. ACAs may use their own format for collecting such data, such as an Excel spreadsheet. During the next year, NOP will call on ACAs to submit this data to the NOP in a form needed by the NOP so that such data can be reported to CFIA. More details will be forthcoming as necessary. This does not apply to processed products.

Links to information on the NOP Website www.ams.usda.gov/nop

[U.S. Letter to Canada.](#)

[Canadian Letter to U.S.](#)

[Q&A on U.S. Canadian Equivalence](#)