






ORGANIC LABELLING GUIDE

This guide is based on: Organic Products Regulations Part 3 (21-25), CAN/CGSB 32.310-2015 par 9

When the product contains	More than 95% organic ingredients (minus water and salt).	Between 70-95% organic ingredients (minus water and salt).	Less than 70 % Organic Ingredients.
Type of claim allowed	'Organic' 'Biologique'	Contains xx % organic ingredients	Only to modify the organic ingredients in the ingredients list.
Product common-name claim Product common name claim	'Organic' / 'Biologique' allowed in the product common name (e.g. Organic Chocolate Chips Cookies / Biscuits aux Pépites de Chocolat Biologiques).	Not allowed.	Not allowed.
'100% organic' claim is not permitted in Canada.			
Organic claims must be in both official languages; this includes the 'Certified by TransCanada Organic Certification Services' claim. Eg. Certifié biologique par TCO Cert. For exceptions refer to Food and Drug Regulations: B.01.012 (3), (7), (11).			
The phrase 'certified organic' may only be used when immediately followed by the name of the CB, Eg 'Certified Organic by TransCanada Organic Certification Services' or 'Certified Organic by TCO Cert'.			
Ingredient list requirements	Multi-ingredient products must clearly distinguish organic ingredients from non-organic ingredients; organic ingredients cannot appear more prominent.	Organic ingredients must be clearly distinguished from non-organic ingredients; organic ingredients cannot appear more prominent.	Organic ingredients may be identified as organic in the ingredient list.
Identifying TCO Cert Identifying TCO Cert	Must include TCO Cert name (TransCanada Organic Certification Services or TCO Cert acronym, or TCO Cert logo; see below for USA requirements. If another CB name is to also appear on the label, contact TCO Cert for further details.	Same as the box to the left.	Not allowed
	Optional. However, when the product is imported into Canada the phrase 'imported' or 'product of'; must immediately precede the country of origin name and this information be in close proximity of logo.	Not allowed.	Not allowed.
	Optional.	Optional.	Not allowed.
	For instructions on how to apply to use the BIO Québec logo visit the CARTV web site: http://www.cartv.gouv.qc.ca/en/logo-bio-quebec-enrolment .		

Quebec

For products destined for Quebec the following supersede the criteria in the table for >95% and 70-95% products:

- labelling must include either 'Certified by TCO Cert' or 'Certified Organic by TCO Cert' phrasing,
- the common name of product must be declared,
- the company's identification (name or identifying code) for the production or the most recent processing operation (depending on which one applies),
- for multi-ingredient products containing 70% to 95% (by weight or volume, excluding salt and water) ingredients originating from organic agriculture or aquaculture the packaging must include 'contains X% of ingredients certified as organic' statement,
- the batch number, if applicable.

For all other mandatory bilingual labelling requirements Google 'CFIA bilingual labelling'.

Fresh fruit and vegetable labelling: If a label is used on individual pieces, or on packaging, the organic labelling requirements are the same as >95% products in the preceding table; except inclusion of the common name is not required. For produce shipped into Quebec follow the Quebec requirements in. [Part 4 - Quebec/CARTV Requirements for Labelling, Advertising, Display Materials and Commercial Documents](#).

Non retail packaged goods (e.g. 25 kgs of flour, 5 lbs coffee) labelling:

The package must state: the common name of the product (e.g. coffee); the product status, the name and address of the person or organization responsible for the production, preparation or distribution of the product; and information that ensures traceability of the product, such as a lot number, and the words, 'certified by TCO Cert' or 'certified organic by TCO Cert' or 'Certified by [Another Certification Body]'.

Non-retail packaged goods destined for Quebec must include core label bilingual requirements.

Transportation shipments (e.g. truckloads, B-trains) documentation:

To maintain the organic integrity the following information must accompany organic products in transit:

- a. The name and address of the person/organization responsible for the production, preparation or distribution of the product
- b. The name of the product
- c. The organic status of the product and certification programs to which the product is certified (e.g. COR)
- d. Information that ensures traceability (e.g. lot number).

USA: For products destined for the USA the following supersedes the criteria in the table above for >95% and 70-95% products:

- labeling must state 'Certified by TCO Cert' or 'Certified Organic by TCO Cert' immediately below the name and address of the handler, manufacturer or distributor,
- certifying body logos may not be used to satisfy the above requirement,
- for further information on labelling requirements refer to 205.302 through 205.310 of the USDA NOP and to <http://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards/organic-labeling-standards>.

Important Note: Before a review of the label for a product can be conducted do familiarize yourself with Canada Organic Standards CAN/CGSB 32.310-2015, 9 Organic product Composition and Part 3 of the Organic Products Regulations. Then submit the following documents to TCO Cert:

1. A legible copy of the camera ready full colour artwork of the label/packaging.
2. A complete and accurate Organic Product Ingredient (OPI) form and supporting documents: ingredient certificates for COR, with Product List, with statement for COR-US Equivalency Arrangement or Sodium (Chilean) Nitrate.

3. Submit to TCO Cert the Label Approval Request (F-EN-085) for approval with all of the pertaining information included, including country where the product is destined.
4. If flavours are used then provide a copy of the flavour label, specification sheet and a 'No Nano Technology' Affidavit from the flavour manufacturer.
5. The OPR Part 2, section 15 (2) states, " the organic product packaging and labelling certification remains in effect for a period of 12 months beginning on the day on which it is granted."

References:

- Canada Organic Standards: [Organic Products Regulations Part 3 – Label](#) and [CAN/CSGB 32.310-2015, par 9](#)
- [CFIA Directive 10-05: Labelling of organic products under the Canada Organic Regime](#)
- [Part 4 - Quebec/CARTV Requirements for Labelling, Advertising, Display Materials and Commercial Documents](#)
- [USDA NOP label information](#)
- [CFIA Interactive Food Label](#) and [CFIA Food Labelling for Industry](#)
- [CFIA Organic Food Organic Claims](#) and [CFIA Organic Products in Canada Q & An Canada Fact Sheet](#)