

*Quality*  
is in our **nature**



*Canada*

## Canadian Organic Foods

*Pure, Natural and Delicious*



Take one of the world's most **natural** and **clean** environments. Combine it with farmers and processors committed to **healthy food choices**, with the know-how to bring a varied selection of foods to consumers' tables. Add in a cold winter climate that reduces pest and disease problems, plus a **large and fertile land base**. The end result: pure, natural and healthy Canadian organic foods.

### A vibrant community

Canada's organic food sector is an innovative and growing community, focused on bringing the best of organics to consumers worldwide. Although grain production is by far Canada's largest organic export commodity, the industry is highly diversified. Canada produces and exports a full range of **fresh**, **frozen** and **processed organic foods**, including everything from fruit and **fruit juices** to peas, lentils and other pulses, and from **maple syrup** to breakfast **cereals**, **fruit smoothies**, **nut butters**, and a wide range of **meat** and **seafood** products.



It's a sector experiencing phenomenal expansion, with double digit annual growth in production and retail sales over the past decade. Most of Canada's organic production is exported to the United States, the European Union and Japan. The sector is positioning itself to increase and diversify its market share in these and other markets.



### Pride, purity, commitment

Canada's organic farmers are focused on maintaining a sustainable, healthy and productive ecosystem at all levels. Through their commitment to **soil regeneration**, **water conservation** and **animal welfare**, organic farmers demonstrate Canadian values at their best – hard work and pride in Canada's clean natural environment.



Canada's organic foods and processed products are produced without the use of synthetic pesticides, chemical fertilizers, genetic engineering or irradiation. Animals in the organic food chain are never fed animal by products, enjoy plenty of outdoor time and socialize with other animals. At the processing level, Canada's organic products are free of chemical preservatives and synthetic additives like colourings and waxes.





Canada's Organic Products Regulations came into effect on June 30, 2009. These regulations ensure all organic products are internationally compliant and certified by government-approved organizations. Working under the watchful eye of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and certifying bodies, organic producers, processors and handlers are required to adhere to stringent national and international standards.

The government of Canada is committed to working with foreign governments to reduce costs and ease entry for Canadian organic products.

### Moving the industry forward

The Canadian organic community is diversifying and moving into new international markets. The sector's impressive growth is expected to continue well into the future. And it has support to innovate and develop from all levels.

The Organic Agriculture Centre for Canada provides support for organic farmers and those in transition through information, research programs and courses. Grower interests are represented at the national level through the Canadian Organic Growers and the Canadian Organic Trade Association, while all across Canada, regional organic farming organizations work with farmers, processors and handlers to move the industry forward.

### Taste the Canadian difference

Produced across Canada's vast unspoiled landscape, treasured for their purity and diversity, Canadian organic foods are wholesome, certified and delicious. For further information on Canada's organic food community, Canadian capabilities and exported products, visit:

#### Government Websites

- Agri-Food Trade Service  
[www.ats-sea.agr.gc.ca](http://www.ats-sea.agr.gc.ca)
- Canadian General Standards Board: Organic Agriculture  
[www.pwgsc.gc.ca/cgsb/on\\_the\\_net/032\\_0310/standard-e.html](http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/cgsb/on_the_net/032_0310/standard-e.html)
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
[www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/orgbio/otfgtspbe.shtml](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/orgbio/otfgtspbe.shtml)
- Standards Council of Canada  
[www.scc.ca](http://www.scc.ca)

#### Sector Websites

- Canadian Organic Growers  
[www.cog.ca](http://www.cog.ca)
- Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada  
[www.organiccentre.ca](http://www.organiccentre.ca)

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