



CCOF

Certification Services, LLC

CCOF Notice Regarding Labeling of Organic Products Sold In Quebec:

CCOF Certified clients directly or indirectly shipping organic product to Quebec are advised that they must label products according to CAAQ organic labeling standards.

Notably, CCOF must be identified as the certifier on all products including fresh bunched or loose produce.

Specific examples include:

- Cucumbers, each cucumber must be labeled with the information required in 9.4.3 below.
- Bundles of leeks, parsley, broccoli, grapes, etc... must be labeled per 9.4.3 below.
- Product in clam shells or in bags must be labeled per 9.4.3.
- Bunches should be individually labeled where each fruit cannot be labeled.

CCOF certified products may be shipped to Quebec by a broker or third party without the knowledge of CCOF producers. In such cases CCOF recognizes that the third party is responsible for informing the CCOF producer of their intent to ship the product to Quebec and provide for the required labeling.

If the CCOF producer is shipping the product directly to Quebec, be advised that you are responsible to meet the labeling requirements of Quebec. **CCOF strongly recommends enrollment in the CCOF Global Market Access program for all clients who directly or indirectly export organic products to foreign markets.**

Please indicate during your inspection and annual updates of any known or potential future sales into Quebec so CCOF can help you by ensuring your compliance with CAAQ requirements.

CAAQ standards can be viewed at www.caaq.org, or <http://www.caaq.org/en/home.asp>. In Chapter 9, Section 9.4 addresses Labeling of fruit and vegetables by operator that requires individual labeling of each "individual" fruit or vegetable.

9.4 Labeling of Fruit and Vegetables by Operators

9.4.1 Perishable foods, such as certified fruit and vegetables, shipped and intended for sale, shall be individually labeled (using stickers or others methods) by the operator holding an organic compliance certificate for these products.

9.4.2 When, due to their specific nature, products cannot be labeled individually (e.g. grapes), then it is the unit of sale (grape or broccoli bunch, parsley bundle, etc.) that shall be affixed with a label.

9.4.3 The operator that holds the certificate shall print its name (or identification codes allotted by the certification body) along with the name of the certifier on all labels attached directly to fruit, vegetables and other food products in this format.

9.4.4 In exceptional cases, when no labels can be affixed to each fruit or vegetable, their packaging must be done under the responsibility of the certificate holder and in a container upon which the label will be affixed. This label must include all information required by Article 9.2.1.