



Industry Notice

September 14, 2009

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency wishes to remind shippers of apples to comply with regulatory requirements for the inter-provincial marketing of produce. Inter-provincial requirements for inspection of apple shipments remain the same as in previous seasons. All shipments of apples must be accompanied by either an inspection certificate or release permit dated within three days of shipment or be packed in a registered produce warehouse.

Shippers must also comply with container and labelling requirements. Information on labelling requirements can be found on the CFIA website at www.inspection.gc.ca.

The maximum container for apples is 200 kg (half bin container). Shipments of bulk bins must be authorized prior to movement out of the province. Authorization is granted for processing or repacking purposes only.

Although cartons can be reused, the CFIA recommends that new cartons be used for food safety considerations. Reused cartons could result in produce contamination, and if the carton is mislabelled, impede a food safety trace back or recall investigation.

All products represented as organic, or bear the organic agricultural product legend, and marketed in inter-provincial trade must comply with the Organic Products Regulations and be certified to the Canadian organic standard. Owners of organic products, sold within the province of origin, are expected to demonstrate that the product is organic as defined by the Canadian organic standard.

The CFIA will monitor destination markets for compliance with the regulations.

To obtain information for the regulatory requirements for marketing fresh fruits and vegetables, contact a CFIA inspection office. Lists of these offices can be found on the CFIA website.