

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 01/24/2013

GAIN Report Number: CA13002

Canada

Post: Ottawa

This Week in Canadian Agriculture - Issue 2

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News

Approved By:

Robin Gray

Prepared By:

Erin Danielson

Report Highlights:

Improvements made to USDA's Market Access Program * Exemptions from Renewable Content Requirement * Canadian Food Inspection Agency Provides Industry with Better Access to Expert Advice * Canadian Press Report on U.S. Confidence Levels in Canadian Meat * Meeting of Enquiry Points of the Americas

This Week in Canadian Agriculture is a review of Canadian agricultural industry developments of interest to the U.S. agricultural community. The issues summarized in this report cover a wide range of subject matter obtained from Canadian press reports, government press releases, and host country agricultural officials and representatives.

If you wish to have this publication sent directly to your inbox, or if you are subscribed and would like to unsubscribe, please send an email to agottawa@fas.usda.gov.

Disclaimer: Any press article summaries in this report are included to bring U.S. readership closer to the pulse of Canadian developments in agriculture. In no way do the views and opinions of these sources reflect USDA's, the U.S. Embassy's, or any other U.S. Government agency's point of view or official policy.

Improvements made to USDA's Market Access Program: As a part of the Blueprint for Stronger service, USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service has implemented changes to the way Market Access Program funds are administered. These changes are intended to streamline operational procedures and establish fraud prevention programs. For more information, please click [here to view the official press release](#). In addition, each of the State Regional Trade Groups (SRTG) maintains web pages on their Branded programs and requirements. Please click on the appropriate link below or contact your SRTG if you are unclear about any changes or requirements.

[Food Export Association of the Midwest USA](#)

[Food Export USA Northeast](#)

[Southern United States Trade Association](#)

[Western United States Agricultural Trade Association](#)

Exemptions from Renewable Content Requirement: Peter Kent, Minister of Environment, announced a permanent national exemption from the 2% renewable content requirement in home heating oil, as well as a 6-month extension to the exemption from the 2% renewable content requirement for diesel fuel for Canada's Maritime Provinces. The Renewable Fuels Regulations, first published on September 2010, also require an average of 5% renewable content in gasoline. The regulations are a key initiative in support of our commitment to reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 17% from 2005 levels by 2020 and are one element of the Government's broader Renewable Fuels Strategy. The permanent exemption for Newfoundland and Labrador from the requirement for 2% renewable content in diesel remains unchanged.

Canadian Food Inspection Agency Provides Industry with Better Access to Expert Advice: On January 7, 2013, Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announced that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will be creating sixteen targeted Centres of Expertise across Canada to provide industry and CFIA inspectors with better, more consistent access to information and advice. The sixteen Centres,

expected to be implemented over the next few years, will consolidate and co-locate expertise for specific programs.

More information is available at the following URL: <http://inspection.gc.ca/about-the-cfia/newsroom/news-releases/20130107/eng/1357338922144/1357338951507>

Canadian Press Report on U.S. Confidence Levels in Canadian Meat: Several Canadian media sources reported that an internal Foreign Affairs memo expressed concern that U.S. "confidence in the Canadian food safety system" could be undermined in the wake of last fall's XL Foods beef recall. One such article, by The Canadian Broadcast Corporation, is available at the following URL: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/story/2013/01/14/pol-foreign-affairs-cfia-us-meat-inspection-xl-foods.html>

Meeting of Enquiry Points of the Americas: The "First Meeting of Enquiry Points of the Americas", a joint Brazil-Canada-U.S. initiative, was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on October 30-November 1, 2012, and organized with the purpose of "Strengthening Mutual Ties to Promote Business and Facilitate Trade in the Region." The Meeting was attended by World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade Enquiry Point representatives and other interested stakeholders from 32 countries in the Western Hemisphere; as well as additional representatives from the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality Secretariat and the WTO Secretariat. In parallel to this event, Canada hosted meetings on October 29 and November 1, 2012 that included training in a Canada-Americas Trade-Related Technical Assistance (CATRTA) forum.

Exchange Rate:

Noon rate, January 23, 2013 (Bank of Canada): U.S. Dollar = C \$ 0.9986

Most Recent Reports from FAS/Ottawa:

Report #	Name of Report	Date Submitted
CA12053	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue, Issue 01	01/11/2013
CA12052	Food Processing Ingredients Update	12/28/2012
CA12051	Food Service – Hotel Restaurant Institutional 2012	12/27/2012
CA12050	FAIRS Export Certificate Report	12/21/2012
CA12049	Export Guide: A Practical Guide	12/21/2012
CA12045	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue, Issue 21	11/26/2012
CA12044	This Week in Canadian Agriculture, Issue 20	11/13/2012
CA12046	The New Legislative Framework for Animal Traceability	12/03/2012
CA12042	Grain and Feed Annual	10/30/2012
CA12041	Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual	11/02/2012