

# COMMUNIQUÉ CANADAGAP<sup>®</sup> COMMUNIQUÉ

**To:** CanadaGAP Stakeholders  
**Date:** February 9, 2021  
**Subject:** **Major Changes to CanadaGAP Program for 2021**

CanadaGAP is in the final stages of completing its benchmarking to GFSI requirements v2020. Unfortunately, to maintain GFSI recognition, CanadaGAP will be forced to introduce some significant changes to the program for 2021. Those changes will have a considerable impact on both the time and cost previously required to close out an audit for **program participants seeking certification under a GFSI-recognized option (Options B, C, and D for Repacking and Wholesaling)**. Rest assured, although every effort was made by CanadaGAP to challenge, appeal and overturn this new requirement, the decision by GFSI is final, and therefore we are taking the following approach, effective April 1, 2021:

## **FOR CanadaGAP Certification Options B, C, and D (for Repacking and Wholesaling)**

These certification options (B, C, and D for Repacking and Wholesaling) are **GFSI-recognized** and are subject to the following changes **effective April 1, 2021**:

- To be certified, program participants must comply 100% with the CanadaGAP audit checklist
- Items that receive less than full points on the audit checklist must be addressed through corrective actions
- The auditor/certification body must approve corrective actions before the program participant can be certified
- Where it is impossible to take corrective action during the current year, the program participant must submit a corrective actions plan to the auditor/certification body, for approval. The corrective actions plan will be verified at the next audit. The company can be certified in the meantime if the corrective actions plan is acceptable to the certification body.
- The program participant will pay the certification body for the time required to review and approve corrective actions or a corrective actions plan.
- The timeframe to close out CARs remains 60 days from the date the audit report is issued. Requests for a longer close-out period can be considered by the certification body on a case-by-case basis.

## **FOR CanadaGAP Certification Options A1, A2, and Brokerage under Option D**

These certification options (A1, A2, and Brokerage under Option D) are **NOT GFSI-recognized** and will continue to meet the usual requirements:

- A score of 85% with no autofailure items is required to pass the CanadaGAP audit
- Those with autofailure items on the audit must correct them before being certified
- To be certified, those scoring below 85% on the audit checklist must implement corrective actions sufficient to obtain a passing score of 85%
- Several GFSI-related requirements in the CanadaGAP Food Safety Manuals are no longer applicable. See further details in the manuals.

Further details of these changes are forthcoming in the following CanadaGAP documents:

- CanadaGAP Program Management Manual, Version 9.0 2021
- CanadaGAP Technical Procedure TP-02-CA *Corrective Actions Follow-up*
- PowerPoint Presentation – Changes to CanadaGAP Certification Program for 2021