



Good Agricultural Practices
Compliance Landscape
Ontario Hazelnut Association
March 16, 2024 Symposium

Trust Your Brand to a Brand You Trust



Presentation Topics

- What are Good Agricultural Practices?
- Why are they needed?
- Who wants to ensure they are being followed?
- How to show compliance?
- Recommended next steps

Good Agricultural Practice

- Buildings & Equipment
 - People – harvesting, sorting, cleaning
 - Packaging
 - Storage
 - Traceability
 - Inputs, cleaning, waste, visitors/biosecurity
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- Defined by government regulation, industry (associations), customers, independent GAP Programs (CanadaGAP)

Why are GAP's Needed?

- Control of food safety hazards – microbial, chemical or physical
- Hazards can be introduced at various steps in the growing, harvesting, sorting, cleaning, packaging and distribution of Hazelnuts
- GAP's provide:
 - the “how to” or the “Do” in control of the hazards
 - the “Say” or the written instructions
 - the “Prove It” or the documents and records

Who Want to Know GAP's are Followed?

- Consumers
- Business Owners – Growers/Packers
- Customers
 - Consumers
 - Retailers/Food Service
 - Distributors/Brokers
 - Processors/Manufacturers
- Government
 - Public Health
 - Provincial
 - Federal

How to Show Compliance

- Government Inspections
 - Public Health – mostly for worker welfare, but also on-farm and local market sales
 - Provincial – OMAFRA (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs) for distribution within Ontario. **O. Reg. 119/11: Produce, Honey, Maple Products**
 - Federal – CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) for distribution across provincial and federal borders, including on-line. **Safe Food for Canadians, produce requirements only**
- Customer Audits – Conducted by the customer, no cost usually
- 2nd Party – Customer specific or requested by them and delivered by 3rd party audit service provider
- 3rd Party – 3rd party audit provider using their own standard or customers (see 2nd party above)
- Accredited Certification – Delivered by licensed and accredited 3rd party provider (TSLC) using benchmarked globally approved standard (CanadaGAP)

Recommended Next Step


1. Request CanadaGAP to initiate a project to conduct a hazard analysis of Hazelnut production with a view to include Hazelnuts (Tree Nuts) within the CanadaGAP program.
2. Commit resources to CanadaGAP to complete the project. (people, time, money?)
3. With 1 & 2 in place receive training on how to adopt and implement CanadaGAP Program Manuals at member operations. (Commitment to implement can be voluntary or mandatory for members.
4. TSLC to provide interim non-accredited certification until CanadaGAP approval.
5. Certification Services discounts for Hazelnut Association members.

TSLC and CanadaGAP

- Received license from CanadaGAP on Feb 1.
- Delivered in partnership with accredited CB, TSL CSI
- Management
 - Canadian Owned and Operated
 - All with CanadaGAP technical & administrative experience
 - Frank Schreurs, Managing Director [linkedin.com/in/frankjschreurs](https://www.linkedin.com/in/frankjschreurs)
 - Soula Ringas, Operations Manager [linkedin.com/in/soularingas](https://www.linkedin.com/in/soularingas)
 - Easy and efficient service from transfer to audit
 - Expedient report and certificate delivery
 - Competitive and transparent pricing



TSLC and CanadaGAP

- Auditors
 - Experienced and credentialled by CanadaGAP
 - Located across Canada to service the various growing regions
 - Canadian Based 
 - Quebec based delivery partner with French language skills

CanadaGAP Certification Options

Option A1 – Initial audit + 3 years self assessment & random audits

Option A2 – Same as A1 with random audits that start new cycle

Option C – Audit every year + random Unannounced, GFSI recognized

Option D – Repacker & Wholesaler, GFSI recognized

Option E – Same as Option C, some scheduling of unannounced, not GFSI

Option F – Same as Option D, some scheduling of unannounced, not GFSI

Option B – Group Certifications, cost effective for managed system



TSLC and CanadaGAP

- CanadaGAP Enrollment and TSLC Section
- New Certification
 - Complete CanadaGAP enrollment form and selection TSLC as the CB
- Transfers
 - Complete CanadaGAP Change of Status Form
 - In Section circle current CB to transfer from and circle TSLC for new CB
 - Submit to CanadaGAP
- Next Steps
 - CanadaGAP informs TSLC of transfer and we initiate contract and receipt of further details to start certification process

TSLC Contact Info

Frank Schreurs

fschreurs@tslccanada.ca

519-318-8314

Soula Ringas

sringas@tslccanada.ca

519-221-9947

TSLC General Contact

info@tslccanada.ca

www.tslccanada.ca