

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Canada

Post: Ottawa

New Requirements for Salad Mixes and Romaine Lettuce

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Vegetables

Agricultural Situation

Agriculture in the News

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Report Highlights:

On November 30, 2018, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency issued new requirements for all U.S. salad mixes as well as shipments of romaine lettuce from California. The Canadian market remains open to U.S. lettuce, which constitutes nearly all lettuce in the Canadian market at this time of year. The United States exported more than \$350 million of fresh lettuce to Canada in 2017.

Keywords: Canada, CA18063, Romaine, California

On November 30, 2018, the [Canadian Food Inspection Agency](#) (CFIA) updated requirements for U.S. lettuce in its [Automated Import Reference System](#) (AIRS). The specific changes are enumerated below and additional clarification is provided below that. Please consult the [AIRS](#) system and Canadian business partners to clarify requirements before shipping products designated below.

At this time, the Canadian market remains open to lettuce from the United States from areas outside the counties identified by the [Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) on November 28, 2018. The [Public Health Agency of Canada](#) (PHAC) has advised Canadian consumers in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick to avoid romaine lettuce from the affected areas identified by the FDA.

1. Shipments of romaine lettuce harvested in California (USA) and salads from all the USA will be referred to CFIA for review.
2. Shipments of romaine lettuce from California must be accompanied by a letterhead, on a separate page, showing a Proof of Origin signed by the exporter declaring the municipality, county and the state (California) where romaine lettuce was harvested.
3. Shipments of salads originating from all of the USA, containing romaine lettuce, will have to be accompanied by a letterhead, on a separate page, showing a Proof of Origin signed by the exporter declaring the municipality, county and state where romaine lettuce was harvested.
4. Shipments of salads originating from all of the USA, which do not contain romaine lettuce, will have to be accompanied by a letterhead, on a separate page, signed by the exporter with the following text: “Does not contain romaine lettuce.”

The term “letterhead” refers to the corporate letterhead of the exporting company. The term “Proof of Origin” refers to the exporter’s declaration.

If you have questions, please contact the CFIA [National Import Service Centre](#) (NISC) from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) at 1-800-835-4486 (Canada or USA).