



UPDATE



Winter 2023

CNGF Office

2

Scrapie

3

Traceability

5

Code of Practice
for the Care and
Handling of Goats

7

On-Farm
Food Safety

8

Misc. Activities

9

- The CNGF board held nine teleconferences in 2022:
 - o January 12, 2022 (AGM)
 - o February 9, 2022
 - o March 9, 2022
 - o May 11, 2022
 - o July 13, 2022
 - o August 9, 2022
 - o September 13, 2022
 - o November 15, 2022
 - o December 11, 2022

- CNGF membership fees for 2023 will be the same as for 2022, and will be based on the total number of individual memberships for 2022:
 - o \$225 for less than 20 members
 - o \$450 for 20-30 members
 - o \$675 for 30-50 members
 - o \$900 for over 50 members
 - o \$1125 for national organizations (CMGA, CGS)

- E-transfers for payments can be sent to: **info@cangoats.com**

- CNGF Executive Director Karen Kolkman will be leaving CNGF effective January 31, 2023, so the office location will be changing in 2023

... [click here for Scrapie info](#)
available on CFIA website

- **National Scrapie Surveillance Program**
 - o Catherine Michaud from CMGA is taking the lead and has been corresponding with CFIA, representing the goat industry
 - Priorities identified for goat sector: implementation of ID/Traceability Program for goats; selection of Scrapie resistant animals; national surveillance
 - o Teleconference meeting in late 2022 with goat and sheep representatives (CNGF, CMGA, CGS, CSF) and vets from CFIA
 - CFIA very keen to have goat industry supply more samples for national scrapie surveillance
 - Small ruminant industries are willing to promote surveillance as long as CFIA gives equal weight to their concerns, ie. genotyping, etc.
 - A lot more variability in genotypes in goats than there is in sheep - so Canada will need to do their own testing because can vary in different parts of the world
 - No financial cost to participate in National Scrapie Surveillance Program - it is not the same as the Scrapie Flock Certification Program

- **CFIA new changes to import policy**
 - o Posted to CNGF website: <http://cangoats.com/upcoming-cfia-modifications-to-import-requirements-for-small-ruminants/>
 - o **CFIA's short term plan** is a new modified Option 2C for importation of live male goats - any individual enrolled in the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program (VSFCP) or who had submitted an application to enroll by December 31, 2021, will be eligible to use this new modified option. These individuals had until December 31, 2022 to apply for an import permit - these permits are valid for three months, therefore the animal would have to be imported by March 31, 2023. After December 31, 2022 this option will once again be removed from the Import Policy.
 - o **CFIA's long term plan** includes updating Option 2B genotyping in the future to include resistant genotypes in goats, pending adequate national surveillance in mature goats and a Scrapie Pilot Program that would offer an alternative to total herd depopulation if a herd is positive. In order to have adequate numbers of animals for testing

surveillance, CFIA is requesting industry's assistance to encourage goat producers to contact their local CFIA office if they have any mature animals or animals die with any symptoms of Scrapie. CFIA has been in contact with federal funding counterparts and would be happy to forward on information to any organization that might like to consider applying for funds for genotyping projects in goats to expediate the genotype piece.

- o **February 2022** - CNGF assisted with translation and distribution of CFIA survey/questionnaire
 - Input/comment period ended in February
 - Received about 140 responses from members of the sheep and goat industry - respondents shared a number of challenges that their industries are facing
 - Analyzed data from CFIA field operations about the use of Option 2C across the country

- o **February 2022** - Formal letter sent from the Small Ruminant Group (Canadian Sheep Breeders Association, Canadian Goat Society, Canadian Meat Goat Association, CNGF, Canadian Sheep Federation) to CFIA's Senior Veterinary Officer and National Veterinary Program Specialist
 - Included details and rationale for the Small Ruminant Industry's Recommended Option 2C Alternatives:
 1. Add to Option 2B, the ability to import male goats of genotypes S146 and K222 as determined by testing completed by a laboratory recognized by the USDA.
 2. Reinstatement of Option 2C for both sheep and goat producers who have achieved Level Certified in the SFCP.
 3. Grandfather in access to Option 2C for producers in the SFCP 'pipeline' at the time the suspension of the option was announced, regardless of level achieved.

- o **November 10, 2021** - CFIA changes import requirements for small ruminants - Option 2C, for the import of male small ruminants from any premises in the U.S. becomes unavailable

- **September 26, 2022 - Industry-Government Advisory Committee (IGAC) Online Meeting**

- o Objectives of the meeting were to review industry progress on traceability implementation and preparation, to provide a livestock traceability regulatory update and timelines, and to address industry questions and concerns regarding regulatory progress.
- o 63 participants included representatives and observers from Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, provincial governments, national livestock associations and livestock industry stakeholders
- o Presentations on traceability implementation and preparation were given by representatives of the Canadian Cattle Association, Dairy Farmers of Canada, Canadian Bison Association, Canadian National Goat Federation, Canadian Pork Council, Canadian Sheep Federation, Canadian Cervid Alliance, Canadian Meat Council, Livestock Markets Association of Canada, and Provincial Governments.
- o Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) provided a high-level history of the proposed regulatory amendment, including objectives and rationale
- o Pre-publication of the regulations in Canada Gazette I is proposed for Winter 2023, followed by a 90-day comment period.
- o An Online Regulatory Consultation System (ORCS) will be available to review the proposed regulations and submit comments directly.

- **September 22, 2022 - IGAC (Industry-Government Advisory Committee) Livestock Group Discussion**

- o Purpose of meeting was for industry representatives to understand each others' perspectives in advance of the IGAC meeting so they can speak with a uniform voice.
- o Roundtable discussion of Regulatory readiness, opinions, and process
- o CFIA will use the time period after the comment period (between CG1 and CG2) to actively consult with sectors based on the comments received. CFIA has committed to being open and transparent with changes made to the regulations between CG1 and CG2.
- o CFIA wants to ensure that all industry sectors are heard and that the resulting regulations are in line with where industry wants to go and that there are no surprises prior to final publication in CG2.

GOAT TRACEABILITY

RESOURCE FROM CCIA



PREMISES ID

Register and identify your premises with your provincial or territorial government: [https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/traceability/premises-identification/eng/ 1495127375452/ 1495127376419](https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/traceability/premises-identification/eng/1495127375452/1495127376419)

PURCHASE

PRE-APPROVED TAGS:

<https://www.canadaid.ca/>

- **September 16, 2022 - IGAC (Industry-Government Advisory Committee) Management Group Online Meeting**
 - o IGAC has been largely inactive for the last 5 years
 - o Reviewed agenda for main IGAC meeting and discussed IGAC charter and memberships
 - o Formal consultations on the regulatory proposal took place in 2015. Industry participated and helped shape the proposal. Industry also provided letters of support to move forward, but the process was continually postponed. IGAC meeting is critical in moving the proposal to Canada Gazette I, which will give stakeholders the opportunity to put forward formal comments. No stakeholder wants to go back to a full consultation.
 - o Plan is to have more frequent meetings of the IGAC Management Group

- **May 2022** - CFIA updated its forward regulatory plan for traceability. The plan is for the amendments to the Health of Animals Regulations, Part XV (livestock identification and traceability) to go into Canada Gazette 1 in Winter 2023. There will then be a formal 90 day comment period on the draft regulations.
 - o Further info: https://inspection.canada.ca/about-cfia/acts-and-regulations/forward-regulatory-plan/2022-to-2024/eng/1505738163122/1505738211563#a1_5_3
 - o After comments received/implemented following publication in CG1, final regulations will be published in Canada Gazette 2 (CG2) and no further changes to regulations will be possible.

- **March, 2022** - CNGF board met with CCIA GM Anne Brunet-Burgess to touch base. CCIA is the responsible administrator for goat traceability in Canada.
 - o CCIA's three main responsibilities:
 - Database (CLTS = Canadian Livestock Tracking System) where info is received, kept safe and private, made available to CFIA
 - Indicators - tags, leg bands - CCIA's support includes dealing with complaints and concerns
 - Communication - main goal is to teach/help everyone to be compliant with traceability regulations. This includes teaching how to report information to the database. CCIA are not enforcers or regulators - that is CFIA's role.

- Final digital version of the goat Code of Practice released on November 18, 2022 and is now available on the NFACC (National Farm Animal Care Council) website: <https://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/goats>
- Printed copies of the Code distributed early in 2023 to provincial contacts - Ontario Goat is storing extra copies for future distribution.
 - Downloadable version will always be available online
- CNGF acknowledges and thanks all participating goat producers for their time and for their contribution to the new code from beginning to end, especially those who volunteered all of their time over three years of this project - Rob Schill (SK), Jean-Philippe Jolin (QC), Theresa Bergeron (ON) and Peter Kerkvliet (ON). The code will be richer because it includes a broader range of content from across Canada.
- The Code of Practice outlines the minimum standards to provide responsible care for goats; the last Code was published in 2003.
- CNGF funded the Code of Practice liaison position and actively solicited sponsorships from industry partners and associations to assist with this funding.
- More information on the Code of Practice: <https://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/goats>

Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Goats



- Technical FSRP (Food Safety Recognition Program) Review of Changes for CNGF OFFS Program completed in February 2022 – must be completed every 18 months to maintain status of a technically reviewed food safety program – no changes were made to the current CNGF OFFS Manual.
- Review of the Food Safety Recognition Program
 - o The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) recently contracted a consultant to undertake a review of the Food Safety Recognition Program (FSRP). The FSRP provides federal government recognition of on-farm and post-farm food safety assurance systems developed and implemented by national industry organizations (NIO) in order to enhance food safety, maintain the confidence of Canadian consumers and facilitate market access.
 - o The recent review was the first formal assessment of the program since its inception in 2001. The consultant did both material research and conducted interviews with key program stakeholders to acquire information for analysis purposes.
 - Program Effectiveness: This review found that the FSRP remains highly effective in ensuring that food safety systems developed by industry through national industry organizations meet federal government standards, that they are audited regularly, and meet consumer and industry demands and requirements.
 - Jurisdictional Oversight: The review also found that the program has tremendous benefit for and impact on producers (farmers). While there is a limited number of NIOs in Canada, the impact of the food safety program benefits tens of thousands of Canadian producers, thereby giving the federal government access and influence at the farm level, which is outside their jurisdiction.
 - o Some of the recommendations made by the consultant to the CFIA for consideration when modernizing the FSRP:
 - The CFIA should consider expanding the scope of the FSRP to include other assurance programs in the areas of biosecurity, traceability, sustainability, animal welfare, etc.
 - The FSRP should be appropriately resourced to allow for expansion and the modernization, streamlining and digitization of all program materials, and manuals be updated and undertaken in the context of this revised scope and mandate.
 - The CFIA should address the issue of program visibility not only within the CFIA itself, but with OGDs, including provincial and territorial governments, as well, ensuring that the FSRP is included in the Agency's Departmental Results Framework.

[... click here to download the
CNGF OFFS Manual](#)

- **May 18, 2022** – CFIA Ruminant Export Specialist introductory meeting with CNGF Executive
 - o New Ruminant Export Specialist, Animal Import and Export Division of International Affairs Branch, CFIA – Dr Sujinder Bhachoo DVM MVSc
 - o From Dr Bhachoo: “USDA has officially told us that with regard to Export of sheep or goats for Breeding or Production from Canada to the USA(HA1944) they are ready to issue import permit and the certificate will be validated shortly in our system. I will update you as soon as the certificate goes live.”
 - o CNGF reps indicated on the call that import was the priority at this point for Canadian producers so no pressing export issues to bring forward