

# Canadian Organic Aquaculture Standards

Aquaculture Innovation Workshop

Justin Henry

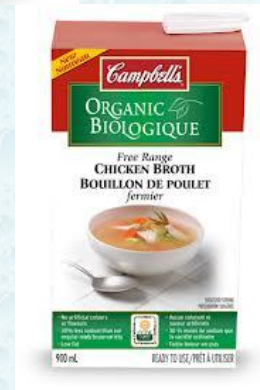
Target Marine Hatcheries Ltd.  
Northern Divine Caviar

November 6<sup>th</sup> 2012

# The 5 W's of the Organic Standards

- Where is the Organic Seafood?
- Why did we Need Standards?
- Who Developed the Standards?
- What is Covered in the Standards?
- When will I answer your questions?

# Where is the Organic Seafood?





# Why did we Need Standards?

- Meet growing demand for organic food
- Compliment other organic standards (Canada, USA, International)
- Facilitate trade and overcome trade barriers
- Manage importation from other jurisdictions
- Encourage organic farming

# Why did we Need Standards?

- **Meet growing demand for organic food**

*From 2006 - 2010, the Canadian organic consumer market increased by 160% (\$1 to \$2.6 billion)*

*- COTA 2012*

*Canada is the 5th largest organic market worldwide*

*- COTA 2012*

# Why did we Need Standards?

- Meet growing demand for organic food
- Compliment other organic agriculture standards (Canada, USA, International)
- Facilitate trade and overcome trade barriers
- Manage importation from other jurisdictions
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# Why did we Need Standards?

- **Facilitate trade and overcome trade barriers**

*US and EU Organic equivalency agreements give Canada access to 96% of the global organic market (\$59 billion)*

*- COTA 2012*

# Why did we Need Standards?

- Meet growing demand for organic food
- Compliment other organic standards (Canada, USA, International)
- Facilitate trade and overcome trade barriers
- Manage importation from other jurisdictions
- Encourage organic farming



# Why did we Need Standards?

- **Encourage organic farming**

*Recognize those farmers who choose to produce their fish according to more rigorous requirements*

# Who Developed the Standards?

## Development Timeline

- 2002 – POSA standard
- 2005 – COAP standard
- 2008 – Working Group
  - Technical experts and stakeholders
  - 25 meetings over ~2 years
- Draft for 60 day public review (June 2010)
- October 2010 – CGSB 40 member Committee

# Who Developed the Standards?

## **CGSB Committee**

- **Regulatory bodies** (Health Canada, CFIA, DFO, ON, QC, AB)
- **Academic/Research institutions** (BCCAHS, CSR)
- **ENGOS** (MU, CCNB, LOS)
- **Producer associations** (IPSFAD, RCC, POSA, BCSGA)
- **Consumer advocacy groups** (CIA, CCC)
- **First Nations** (AFN)
- **Organic agriculture groups** (OFC, COTA)

# Who Developed the Standards?

## Development Timeline

- April 2011 – 2<sup>nd</sup> public review
- October 2011 – CGSB Committee vote

<b>Ballots Cast</b>	<b>Affirmative</b>	<b>Negative</b>
27	22 (81%)	5 (19%)

- January 2012 – CGSB final revisions
- April 2012 – standards released



# Who Developed the Standards?

CAN/CGSB-32.312-2012

Organic Aquaculture Standards

ICS 65.150

National Standard of Canada

Can be purchased from CGSB website for \$88.50

The logo for Canada, featuring the word "Canada" in a black serif font. A small Canadian flag is positioned above the letter "a".

Canada

The logo for the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) and the Organic North American Network (ONGC). The letters "CGSB" are stacked above "ONGC" in a stylized, teal-colored font.

CGSB  
ONGC

# What is Covered in the Standards?

## Description (I)

Developed for equivalency with Canada and EU



Agriculture



Aquaculture

# What is Covered in the Standards?

## **General Principles**

1. Protect the environment
2. Maintain long term biological stability
3. Recycle materials and resources
4. Provide attentive care
5. Maintain the organic integrity of the products



# What is Covered in the Standards?

## Scope (1)

- Seaweeds, aquatic plants, aquaculture animals (fish and shellfish)





# What is Covered in the Standards?

## **Scope (1)**

- Seaweeds, aquatic plants, aquaculture animals (fish and shellfish)
- Processed products for human consumption
- Aquaculture animal feed
- Processed products for animal consumption
- Prohibited substances, methods, ingredients

# What is Covered in the Standards?

## **Organic Plan (4)**

- Detail production, processing, handling, and management practices
- Record keeping and identification
- Traceability
- Transition period
- Parallel production and buffer zones

# What is Covered in the Standards?

## **Seaweeds and Aquatic Plant Aquaculture (5)**

- Water quality and environment
- Sustainable harvesting
- Cultivation conditions
- Antifouling measures
- Cleaning of equipment and facilities



# What is Covered in the Standards?

## **Animal Aquaculture (6)**

- Water quality and environment
- Animal species and origin
- Reproduction
- Feed and feeding
- Health and welfare – 5 domains
- Cultivation conditions
- Antifouling measures and cleaning
- Harvesting, transporting, slaughtering
- Specific requirements for aquatic invertebrates





# What is Covered in the Standards?

**Pest Management (7)**

**Processing, Handling, Transportation and  
Storage (8)**

**Permitted Substance Lists (9, 10, 11, 12)**

# When will I answer your questions?

## **What is the difference between organic and conventional aquaculture?**

- Antibiotics prohibited
- Stocking density limited
- GMOs prohibited
- Artificial pigment prohibited
- Chemical anti-foulants prohibited
- Fish meal and oil must be organic when available

# When will I answer your questions?

## What products are now certified in Canada?

- None yet
- Certifying Bodies obtaining clarification
- Soon to come. . . Certified Organic Northern Divine Caviar



When will I answer your questions?



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