

Labelling of Honey in Canada

Made in Canada vs Product of Canada

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulates origin claims on food labels, distinguishing between "**Product of Canada**" and "**Made in Canada**". Understanding these distinctions is crucial for consumers, as studies indicate widespread confusion between the two.

Product of Canada

This claim has a very high standard. It signifies that **all or virtually all major ingredients (at least 98%), processing, and labor used to make the food product are Canadian**. Essentially, the food is overwhelmingly Canadian in origin, with any non-Canadian material being negligible. So if you see honey marked with "**Product of Canada**" or "**Canadian Honey**" then it must be greater than 98% Canadian honey. The claim **Canadian** is considered the same as "**Product of Canada**" and must meet the same criteria.

Food is governed under the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations. More info here: [Origin claims on food labels - inspection.canada.ca](https://inspection.canada.ca/origin-claims-on-food-labels)

Made in Canada

This claim indicates that the **last substantial transformation of the product occurred in Canada**. So it can contain imported ingredients. When using the "**Made in Canada**" claim, **you need** to specify whether the product is made from imported ingredients or a combination of imported and domestic ingredients such as include "**Made in Canada from domestic and imported ingredients**" or "**Made in Canada from imported ingredients**." This means a "**Made in Canada**" product can contain a larger amount of foreign ingredients compared to a **Product of Canada** item.

Consumer surveys reveal that many Canadians incorrectly assume "**Made in Canada**" implies mostly Canadian ingredients when it does **not**.





Use of "Canada No. 1"

"**Canada No. 1**" is one of the **three grade names specifically designated for honey produced in Canada** that is graded under the SFCR. The other Canadian grade names are "**Canada No. 2**" and "**Canada No. 3**". These grade names are required on the label of all honey that is exported, imported, or traded interprovincially and meets the specified requirements in the Canadian Grade Compendium. It is important to note that **imported honey cannot be referred to as "Canada No. 1"** but can only use the term "**No. 1**"

Imported Honey

Imported honey and blends of imported and Canadian honey have their own set of grade names: "**No. 1**", "**No. 2**", and "**No. 3**"

Imported honey must be marked "**Product of _____**" specifying the country of origin.

Blends of honey must list the countries of origin in the order of most to least. For example "**Product of Canada and Argentina**" means that greater than 51% of the contents must be from Canada.

Summary

"**Product of Canada**" signifies greater than 98% Canadian origin

"**Made in Canada**" indicates the final processing occurred in Canada, allowing for imported ingredients but the origin must be clear.

"**Canada No. 1**" is a specific top-tier grade designation exclusively for honey produced in Canada. "**No. 1**" is used for imports

