SFA Export Library Market Reports on Food Import Regulations and Standards

Country of Origin	Singapore (SG)
Country of Destination	Canada (CA)
Food Product Category	Milk and Dairy Products
Product Code	HS Codes: 04.01 - 04.06, 1901.90.31 00, 1901.90.32 00, 1901.90.51 00, 1901.90.52 00, 2105.00, 2202.99.22 00

The information in this document has been compiled and provided by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA). SFA emphasises that importers and exporters have the responsibility to find out the import requirements of destination countries/regions/markets. Exporters are advised to confirm with their importers on the import requirements and eligibility of their product before exporting.

SN	Sub-header	Details
1	**Product eligibility / ineligibility**	Foods commonly recognised as dairy products – that are *not* defined as milk products – such as cheese, kashkh, yogurt, ice cream and kephir from Singapore are eligible for exports to Canada. Integrated food product – containing milk and milk products as *ingredients of that food product* – which has no animal health restriction are eligible. Such *ingredients* do not include milk proteins, milk sugars, milk enzymes, vitamins, minerals, flavourings, or any other substance intended to fortify or increase the nutritional value of or to alter taste, appearance or supplemental value of the milk or regulated milk product. For more information, please see Milk and Regulated Milk Products - Import Procedures. Foods commonly recognised as milk or milk products in concentrated, dried, frozen or reconstituted or fresh form (for example milk, partly skimmed milk, skim milk, cream, butter, buttermilk, butter oil, whey, whey butter, whey cream, reconstituted chocolate milk) from Singapore are not eligible for exports to Canada.
2	**Importing country authority**	Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is the competent authority regulating the food safety for industry including the import of dairy products to Canada.

3	**Pre-export approvals by the importing country**	**Country Level Approval** According to Milk and Regulated Milk Products - Import Procedures, milk and regulated milk products must fully comply with the applicable Food and Drug Regulations including the requirement to have an equivalent system to Canada's, as determined by CIFA: - From countries (officially) recognized by CFIA as free of foot-and-mouth disease. Singapore is not officially recognized by Canada as being free of foot-and-mouth disease. - From countries being evaluated by CFIA for animal health status. Singapore is a country for which CFIA has no or limited knowledge of the inspection infrastructure (source of the zoosanitary export certificate) and which is not recognized by CFIA as free of foot mouth disease. More information on the animal health requirement can be found in the Health of Animal Regulations and Terrestrial Animal Products and By-Products: Import Policy Framework (especially Notice to industry: Implementation of certain chapters of the Terrestrial animal products and by-products: Import Policy Framework) which include but not limited to milk products and annex acceptable treatments of milk products. **Establishment Level Approval** No establishment listing is required for dairy products exported from Singapore to Canada. **Product Import Requirements** The import requirements for importing milk and milk products can be found at CFIA's Automated Import Reference System (AIRS) and "Find by Commodity" via here. Dairy products also have food-specific import requirements related to grades or standards. Generally, it is related to a health risk, and additional permits or certificates are required that attests that the food is safe. In addition, there are regulatory requirements: dairy products. **Importer: Import Permit** Dairy products are agricultural commodities subject to controls under Export and Imports Permit Act (EIPA). Accordingly, an import permit is required for shipments of these products to enter Canada for both personal use and commercial use.

		Import permits for shipments of dairy products destined to the Canadian market are issued to quota holder lists (key in *butter* or *buttermilk powder* or *cheese* or *concentrated milk* or *cream* or *cream powder* or *ice-cream* or *margarine* or *milk* or *milk powder* or *milk protein substances* or *natural milk constituents* or *other dairy* or *whey powder* or *yogurt and buttermilk* in "Filter items" to retrieve details of the processors and distributors) under Canada's tariff rate quota (TRQ), which is administered by Global Affairs Canada (GAC). Under the EIPA and Customs Tariff, a quota holder can import a specific quantity of such products at a lower (within access) rate of duty and import without limit on the amount of product at a higher (over access) rates of duty. For more information, please see Controlled Products on the importation of these products. **Importer: Preventive Control Plan (PCP)** Importer Guide: Prepare Your Preventive Control Plan is intended for food importers that are required to have a preventive control plan (PCP) under the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR). A PCP is a written plan outlining how the importer ensures that imported food is safe and fit for consumption in Canada and conforms to Canadian consumer protection requirements, as applicable. This document describes the preventive control plan contents for import licence holders only.
4	**Export certificates for food**	An Export Health Certificate issued by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) is required for each consignment. For exports that require an Export Health Certificate, you may forward the import permit / conditions to SFA here. According to Overview: Importing Dairy Products, the Health of Animals Act restricts the importation of milk products from countries where the presence of animal diseases pose a threat to Canadian agriculture and health. Depending on the country of origin, there are certain requirements that must be met in order to import milk products that carry the risk of introducing foot-and-mouth disease into Canada. In most cases, (the importer and exporter) will be required to obtain a zoosanitary export certificate (from the exporting country) that describes the product and country of origin of the animals from which the milk is obtained. **Applicable Attestation in Certification for Dairy Products** According to Milk and Regulated Milk Products - Import Procedures, for any dairy products including milk and milk products and other dairy products as such or as ingredients for livestock feed, from recognised countries

		free of foot-and-mouth disease by CFIA (*Singapore is **not** a country recognised by Canada as FMD-free*), the zoosanitary export certificate must state that the product has been submitted to: - Pasteurization: Minimum 72°C for at least 15 seconds or - Ultra-High Temperature (UHT): Minimum 140°C for at least 5 seconds.
5	**Regulations and standards**	Health Canada is responsible for setting food safety standards and guidelines and provides advice and information on the safety and nutritional value of food. Information related to legislation and guidelines on food and nutrition such as Food and Drugs Act and Food and Drug Regulations for administration, enforcement and compliance purposes and guidance documents: food and nutrition to assist in interpretation of policies and governing statutes and regulations have been published. Interested exporters who wish to export dairy products to Canada must meet all their regulations and standards. The following links are provided as a guide: **(1)Pesticide Residues** According to Pesticide and Pest Management, all pesticides used in Canada must meet the requirements of the Pest Control Products Act and its regulations. Pesticide Product Information Database contains Maximum residue limit search which allows individual to search for the maximum residue limits information available to the public. For more information, please see Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides. **(2)Veterinary Drug Residues** A Maximum Residue Limit is a level of residue that could safely remain in the tissue or food product derived from a food-producing animal that has been treated with a veterinary drug. A list of Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Veterinary Drugs in Foods sets out the level of residue that could safely remain in the tissue or food product derived from a food-producing animal that has been treated with a veterinary drug. **(3)Contaminants and Toxins** Health Canada's Maximum Levels for Chemical Contaminants in Foods sets out the maximum levels for contaminants in foods in an effort to reduce exposure to a particular contaminant. This List of Contaminants and Other Adulterating Substances in Foods which appear as regulatory limits is incorporated by reference into Division 15 of the Food and Drug Regulations. Additional MLs for other contaminants in foods are

		available in the List of Maximum Levels for Various Chemical Contaminants in Foods. Both lists are established by Health Canada and are enforceable by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. **(4)Microorganisms** Guidance Document on Ready-to-Eat Smoked Fish and Multi-Ingredient Products Containing Smoked Fish provides guidance to mitigate the microbiological risks associated with ready-to-eat smoked fish and multi-ingredient products containing smoked food. Bacteriological guidelines for fish and fish products (end product) outline the test organisms and corresponding unacceptable concentrations of bacteria in a sample. Policy on *Listeria monocytogenes* in ready-to-eat foods (2023) – which applies to all foods sold in Canada (including imported food) – outlines the microbiological criteria for *Listeria monocytogenes* in ready-to-eat foods in Table 1. Official Methods for the Microbiological Analysis of Food outlines the food testing methods. Canadian authorities are seeking public consultation on the draft table of microbiological criteria for foods. **(5)Food Additives** Transition Guide: Understanding and Using the Lists of Permitted Food Additives contains the Lists of Permitted Food Additives (which include but not limited to permitted anticaking agents and permitted colouring agents). The 15 lists of permitted food additives are meant to replace the food additive tables housed under Division 16 of the Food and Drug Regulations. Each list is incorporated by reference through a (food additive) Marketing Authorization (MA), (a ministerial regulation) which sets out the conditions and legal foundation for the use of the list. 15 MAs have been enacted to mirror the 15 classes of food additives (e.g. MA for permitted anticaking agents and MA for permitted colouring agents). The 15 lists are also incorporated on an ambulatory basis (means that as the lists are updated from time to time, the changes are automatically and immediately in force). **(6)Product Standards** The Division 8 of Food and Drug Regulations stipulates the food standard of dairy products. The Division 2 Part 6 of Safe Food for Canadians Regulations stipulates the commodity-specific requirements of dairy products, and related licensing conditions of license holder.

		Canadian Standards of Identity: Volume 1 – Dairy Products provides the standard of identity for standardized food namely dairy products (which include but not limited to milk, cheese, butter, butter oil, frozen dairy product ice cream, sherbet). Such food with prescribed standards must comply with the specifications of the standards of identity in every respect. This requirement to comply with prescribed standards also applies to foods likely to be mistaken for a standardized food. While Canadian Grade Compendium: Volume 4 – Dairy Products provides the grading standard for dairy products made in Canada, Canadian Grade Compendium: Volume 9 – Import Grade Requirements provides the grade requirements, grade names, and grade designations for imported food into Canada which include dairy products particularly under *Table of Imported Foods without Import Grade Name*.
6	**Labelling, packaging and marking requirements**	**(1)Labelling Requirements** Imported dairy products must meet the labelling, standards of identity and grades as outlined in the Food and Drug Regulations and Safe Food for Canadians Regulations. The Industry Labelling Tool is the food labelling reference covering - core labelling requirements (which include but not limited to bilingual food labelling, list of ingredients and allergens on food labels, common name on food labels, country of origin on food labels, and irradiated foods); - claims and statements (which include but not limited to food advertising requirements and nutrient content claims); and - applicable food-specific labelling requirements for all stakeholders (including importers). Labelling requirements for dairy products also stipulate the (food-specific) labelling requirements that apply to imported dairy products. Units of Measurement for the Net Quantity Declaration of Certain Foods stipulates the requirements for net quantity declaration of food (which include but not limited to cottage cheese, yogurt, whipped butter, ice cream and sherbet).

		According to Labelling Genetically Modified (GM) Foods, there are no specific laws in Canada about labelling GM foods differently. They are labelled like any other food because safety assessments have found them to be as safe and nutritious as non-GM foods. Voluntary method-of-production labelling is allowed, so long as the claims are true and not misleading. To promote the use of voluntary labelling, Health Canada supported the development of a national standard: Voluntary labelling and advertising of foods that are and are not products of genetic engineering. Nutrition labelling: overview provides an outline of nutrition information found on food labels. In particular, according to Front-of-package nutrition symbol labelling guide for industry, by 01 Jan 2026, prepackaged food products (including those that are imported into Canada) require a nutrition symbol to be indicated on the label (specifically, on the principal display panel) of the prepackaged product when the amount of saturated fat, sugars and/or sodium is equal or higher than the specific nutrient thresholds. **(2)Packaging Requirements** According to Division 23 of Food and Drug Regulations, - No person shall sell any food in a package that may yield to its contents any substance that may be injurious to the health of a consumer of the food. - No person shall sell any food in a package that has been manufactured from a polyvinyl chloride formulation containing an octyltin chemical. - A person may sell food, other than milk, skim milk, partly skimmed milk, sterilized milk, malt beverages and carbonated non-alcoholic beverage products, in a package that has been manufactured from a polyvinyl chloride formulation containing any or all of the octyltin chemicals, namely, di(n-octyl)tin S,S'-bis(isooctylmercaptoacetate), di(n-octyl)tin maleate polymer and (n-octyl)tin S,S',S''-tris(isooctylmercaptoacetate) if the proportion of such chemicals, either singly or in combination, does not exceed a total of three percent of the resin, and the food in contact with the package contains not more than one part per million total octyltin. - …
7	**Other information**	**(1)Importing Food to Canada**

		Importing Food to Canada: A Step-By-Step Guide describes the recommended steps (Canadian importer) can follow to meet the requirements to import food into Canada and to maintain a food import licence. **(2)Food-Specific Import Requirements** The Safe Food for Canadians Regulations set out certain requirements, such as licensing, preventive controls and traceability that apply to most food commodities; however, certain food commodities have specific requirements related to grades or standards. In some cases, it may be related to a health risk and additional permits or certificates are required that attests that the food is safe. For more information, please see Food-Specific Import Requirements. The import requirements for importing food can be found in the Automated Import Reference System (AIRS). **(3)Understanding the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations** For answers to frequently asked questions such as importing non-compliant foods, please find the section on Importing food. For more information, please see food imports. **(4)Overview: Importing Dairy Products** Overview: Importing Dairy Products outlines requirements specific to importing dairy products. **(5)WTO Import Licensing Procedures** Canada's legislation and notifications

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